



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.flgov.com
850-717-9418

February 5, 2021

Mr. Jeff Aaron
Chair – Ninth Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission
301 East Pine Street, Suite 1400
Orlando, Florida 32801

Dear Mr. Aaron:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Ninth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Orange County Court. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Gisela Laurent. The Governor strongly prefers submission of the maximum number of nominees (six) for the vacancy.

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Sunday, March 7, 2021**. In cases where a discretionary extension of no more than thirty days is needed, as authorized by Article V, Section 11(c) of the Florida Constitution, please contact me.

Administrative support for the Commission will be provided by the Governor's Office, pursuant to section 43.291(7), Florida Statutes. This includes all essential administrative needs such as document distribution, public announcements and the like. Our JNC Coordinator Erin Kraeft (850-717-9310; Erin.Kraeft@eog.myflorida.com) will contact you to these ends.

The Commission's handling of this matter is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Uthmeier".

James Uthmeier
Chief Deputy General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Donald Myers, Jr.
Chief Judge