

**SECOND CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION ANNOUNCES  
APPLICATION DEADLINE AND INTERVIEW DATE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 22, 2020

Matthew J. Carson, Chair (*effective 7/1/2020*); [mcarson@sniffenlaw.com](mailto:mcarson@sniffenlaw.com)

Contact: Hayden Dempsey; [dempseyh@gtlaw.com](mailto:dempseyh@gtlaw.com)

TELEPHONE: (850) 222-6891

As a result of the elevation of Judge Robert Long, Jr. to the First District Court of Appeal, there is a vacancy on the Second Circuit Court bench. Additionally, due to the elevation of Judge Layne Smith to the Second Circuit Court, there is a vacancy on the Leon County Court bench. Gov. Ron DeSantis has asked the 2nd Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission to provide him with highly qualified nominees for these vacancies, by no later than **Friday, July 17, 2020**.

Complete, unredacted applications for these vacancies must be received before 12:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, July 8, 2020**, at:

2nd Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission

Attn: Matthew J. Carson, Chair

c/o Sniffen & Spellman, P.A.

123 North Monroe Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Applications may be downloaded from the Florida Bar's website at [www.floridabar.org](http://www.floridabar.org) or the Office of the Governor at [www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com).

The Second Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) will also meet at 3:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, July 8, 2020**, telephonically at 877-860-3058, participant code 490689#. Members of the public are invited to attend.

**AGENDA:**

1. Call to Order.
2. Review the list of applicants for vacancies and assign vetting.
3. Adjourn.

Interviews will be held on **Thursday, July 16, 2020**. Additional information regarding the location and interview schedule will be forthcoming.

Neither incomplete applications nor applications submitted after the deadline will be considered. Further, all applicants must meet the qualifications for the county and circuit court judges outlined in Article V, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution.

**Please indicate in your application for which vacancy you are applying: the Leon County Court, the Second Circuit Court, or both.**

In addition to the original application, applicants must provide nine (9) paper copies of the application and attachments, and email a .PDF version of the application to [mcarson@sniffenlaw.com](mailto:mcarson@sniffenlaw.com) with personal information not subject to public disclosure redacted as permitted by Section 119.071 of the Florida Statutes. Please also provide an electronic version of the complete, unredacted application to the same email address. Please also email a digital photo with the unredacted application. To assist the commission, all questions on the application must be fully and completely answered. Applications must include current contact information (especially direct phone numbers), including email addresses, for judges, co-counsel, opposing counsel and references to facilitate the background investigation that will be conducted by the members of the commission. Applicants shall not initiate contact with the commissioners until the nominees are submitted to Gov. DeSantis.

All proceedings of this Judicial Nominating Commission are open to the public except for deliberations. Accordingly, applicants should not expect their application to be kept confidential. If an applicant is nominated, all materials attached to the original application will be submitted to Gov. DeSantis' office. If there are any questions about the application process, please contact Matthew Carson at the number above.

The members of the Judicial Nominating Commission include the following: Matthew J. Carson, Chair, Dan Russell, Vice-Chair, Hayden Dempsey, Kristina R. Osterhaus, Darrick D. McGhee, Brian Newman, Erik Matthew Figlio, Robert Neil Clarke, Jr, and Stuart F. Williams.

##