



RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

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May 11, 2015

Ms. Teresa Gaffney  
Chair-Thirteenth Circuit  
Judicial Nominating Commission  
1311 North West Shore Blvd.  
Tampa, Florida 33607

Dear Ms. Gaffney:

Governor Scott has directed me to request that you convene the Thirteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court and the Hillsborough County Court. These appointments are to fill the vacancies created by the resignations of Judge Bernard Charles Silver, who will have met the eligibility requirements outlined by Article V, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution and Judge Christopher Nash's recent appointment to the Circuit Court. The Governor strongly prefers submission of the maximum number of nominees (six) for each vacancy.

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Friday, July 10, 2015**. The deadline is final as it includes the discretionary 30-day extension authorized by Article V, Section 11(c) of the Florida Constitution.

Administrative support for the Commission will be provided by the Governor's Office. Sec 43.291(7), Fla. Stat. (2014). This includes all essential administrative needs such as document distribution, public announcements and the like. JNC Coordinator Laura Bax (850-717-9313; [Laura.Bax@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:Laura.Bax@eog.myflorida.com)) will contact you to these ends.

The Commission's expeditious handling of this matter is most appreciated. If I may be of assistance to you or the members of the Commission, please call me at (850) 717-9310.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Timothy M. Cerio".

Timothy M. Cerio  
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Ronald Ficarrotta  
Chief Judge