FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2015

CONTACT: Todd Harris, Chair **TELEPHONE**:

(850) 202-8525

First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

FIRST CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT OF TWO CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIAL VACANCIES

Governor Scott has declared <u>two</u> vacancies on the First Judicial Circuit, Circuit Court, brought about by the retirements of Judge Terry D. Terrell and Judge T. Michael Jones. Accordingly, the First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission is now accepting applications for both of these vacancies.

Qualifications of Applicants:

Applicants must be able to fulfill the Constitutional qualifications before assuming the office of Circuit Court Judge, which specify that (a) no person shall be eligible for office of judge of any court unless the person is an elector of the state and resides in the territorial jurisdiction of the court and (b) no person is eligible for the office of circuit judge unless the person is, and has been for the preceding five years, a member of the bar of Florida.

Instructions for Submission:

Application forms for judgeship may be obtained from the Nominating Commission Chair, Todd Harris, whose address and telephone number appears below. Applications can be downloaded from The Governor's website by clicking the "Judicial" tab, www.flgov.com.

The Original completed application with attachments, one copy of the original with attachments that has the redactions required by Fla. R. Jud. Admin., a flash drive with both original and redacted applications with attachments, and a recent photo must be delivered to Todd Harris, Chairman, First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission at the address below no later than **3:00 p.m. on Monday, August 31, 2015**. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Todd Harris, Chairman
First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission
719 S. Palafox Street
Pensacola, FL 32502
rtharris@pensacolalaw.com
(850) 202-8525

A list of members of the First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission is also available on The Florida Bar website. Questions should be directed to Todd Harris, Chair, First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission at (850) 202-8525 or rtharris@pensacolalaw.com.

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Please note: Florida has very broad public records laws. Many written communications to or from The Florida Bar regarding Bar business may be considered public records, which must be made available to anyone upon request. Your e-mail communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

The judicial nominating commission of each circuit, in submitting nominations for any vacancy in a judgeship, and the Governor, in filling any vacancy for a judgeship, shall consider whether the existing judges within the circuit, together with potential nominees or appointees, reflect the geographic distribution of the population within the circuit, the geographic distribution of the caseload within the circuit, the racial and ethnic diversity of the population within the circuit, and the geographic distribution of the racial and ethnic minority population within the circuit. Section 26.021 Florida Statutes.