

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

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January 5, 2016

Mr. R. Todd Harris First Circuit - Chair Judicial Nominating Commission 719 S. Palafox Street Pensacola, Florida 32502

Dear Mr. Harris:

Governor Scott has directed me to request that you convene the First Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for the two appointments to the Escambia County Court. These appointments are to fill the vacancies created by the appointments of Judge Darlene F. Dickey and Judge Thomas V. Dannheisser 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 March 7, 2016. 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. (2015). This includes all essential administrative needs such as document distribution, public announcements and the like. JNC Coordinator Laura Dane (850-717-9313; <u>Laura.Dane@eog.myflorida.com</u>) 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,

Timothy M. Cerio General Counsel

The Honorable Linda Nobles cc: Chief Judge