



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
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850-717-9418

September 15, 2020

Mr. Anthony W. Graham
Chair – Fourteenth Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission
303 Timber Lane
Panama City, Florida 32405

Dear Mr. Graham:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Fourteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Bay County Court. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Thomas Welch. 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 **Thursday, October 15, 2020**. 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 "Joe Jacquot".

Joe Jacquot
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Chris Patterson
Chief Judge