



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

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850-717-9418

April 3, 2020

Mr. Robert Batsel, Jr.
Chair – Fifth Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission
1531 Southeast 36th Avenue
Ocala, Florida 34471

Dear Mr. Batsel:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Fifth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Fifth Circuit Court. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Mark Hill. 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 **Monday, May 18, 2020**. This includes a discretionary extension as authorized by Article V, Section 11(c) of the Florida Constitution.

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 Daniel B. Merritt, Jr.
Chief Judge