

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF  
FLORIDA, INC., COMMON CAUSE,  
PATRICIA M. BRIGHAM, JOANNE  
LYNCH AYE, and ELIZA  
McCLENAGHAN,

Petitioners,

v.

Case No.: SC18-1573

HON. RICK SCOTT, in His Official  
Capacity as Governor of Florida,  
FLORIDA SUPREME COURT  
JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION,  
and JASON L. UNGER, in His Official  
Capacity as Chair of the Florida Supreme  
Court Judicial Nominating Commission,

Respondents.

**UNOPPOSED MOTION OF THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR  
WOMEN LAWYERS ET AL. FOR LEAVE TO FILE AMICUS BRIEF IN  
PARTIAL SUPPORT OF THE EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL  
PETITION FILED BY PETITIONERS**

Pursuant to Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.370, the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (“FAWL”), the Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association, the Caribbean Bar Association, the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association, the Daniel Webster Perkins Bar Association, the Haitian Lawyers Association, the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter National Bar Association, the Fred G. Minnis Sr. Bar Association, and the George Edgecomb Bar Association (collectively referred to as “amici”), respectfully move this Court for the entry of an

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order permitting them to appear as amici curiae in partial support of Petitioners' position to extend the application deadline. As grounds therefore, FAWL and the undersigned voluntary bar associations state:

1. This case is before this Court on the basis of quo warranto jurisdiction.
2. FAWL is a non-partisan statewide voluntary bar association of approximately three thousand attorneys, judges, and law students who support FAWL's mission. FAWL's mission is to actively promote gender equality and the leadership roles of FAWL's members in the legal profession, judiciary, and community at large. To achieve these goals, FAWL upholds the highest standard of integrity, honor, and courtesy in the legal profession, promotes reform in law, and facilitates the administration of justice. FAWL and its members have a direct interest in this case because the only women on the Court will be replaced through the appointments in issue and because numerous qualified FAWL members did not apply under the deadline announced prior to the Court's interim order on October, 15, 2018. FAWL is specifically concerned with increasing the number of women and with increasing diversity on the Court. Currently, only eleven (11) women have applied out of fifty-nine (59) applicants.

3. The eight additional voluntary bar associations joining the brief share a view that diversity is an essential component of a fair and impartial judiciary and

also support the extension of the deadline for applicants to apply to the Judicial Nominating Commission for the Supreme Court of Florida.

4. The proposed amicus brief will address the importance of a diverse applicant pool, reflective of the citizens of Florida and The Florida Bar. The current applicant pool is not reflective of Florida's diversity. FAWL's amicus brief will demonstrate that more diverse highly qualified potential applicants will apply if the deadline is extended. Finally, the amicus brief will argue that extension of the time period for applications will not prejudice applicants, the appointing Governor, or the Judicial Nominating Commission ("JNC").

5. The amicus brief will assist the Court in evaluating the significance and long term impact of extending the deadline for applications for these appointments.

6. The relief is sought as soon as practicable, given the emergency nature of the supplemental petition, the time it took to be docketed, and the board approval process required for FAWL and the other voluntary bar associations to appear as amicus.

7. The undersigned counsel, Jennifer Shoaf Richardson, FAWL President, has conferred with counsel for the Parties, and is authorized to represent that they have no objections to this motion.

WHEREFORE, the Florida Association for Women Lawyers and undersigned voluntary bar associations respectfully move this Court for the entry of an order permitting them to appear as amici curiae in partial support of Petitioners' position.

Respectfully submitted,

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished to the following counsel by email on November 1, 2018:

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