

Lawyers Reyes, Pedrosa named to Supreme Court JNC



Israel Reyes

A former Miami-Dade circuit judge and the deputy manager of Republican Connie Mack's unsuccessful U.S. Senate campaign are among the newest members of the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission.

Former Judge Israel Reyes opened the Reyes Law Firm in Coral Gables last spring after a stint as a partner at Diaz, Reus & Targ. He was a circuit judge from 2003 to 2011 and a county court judge from 2002 to 2003. Previously, he was an assistant Miami-Dade state attorney and a Miami-Dade police officer and detective. He succeeds Kathy Ezell, a partner at Podhurst Orseck in Miami.

Before hitting the campaign trail for Mack, Nilda Pedrosa of Coral Gables was assistant dean for development and external affairs at the Florida International University College of Law from 2010 to 2012. She also served as chief of staff for U.S. Representative Mario Diaz-Balart from 2009 to 2010 and as senior policy adviser to U.S. Senator Mel Martinez from 2005 to 2009. She previously held positions at the U.S. State Department and Miami Children's Hospital. She succeeds Martin Garcia of Matthews Eastmoore Hardy Crauwels & Garcia in Sarasota.

Governor Rick Scott also appointed Daniel Nordby, general counsel for the state House, to the JNC on Friday. Previously, he was general counsel for the Florida Department of State from 2011 to 2012, an attorney at Ausley McMullen from 2007 to 2011 and assistant general counsel for the state Education Department from 2006 to 2007. He succeeds former chair Kathleen Shanahan of Tampa.

All three terms end July 1, 2016.

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