

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 22-37

(State Attorney Executive Assignment)

WHEREAS, the Honorable GINGER BOWDEN MADDEN, State Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that Amber Leigh Rowland has been arrested for driving under the influence, resisting an officer without violence and child neglect; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable GINGER BOWDEN MADDEN has also advised the Governor that Amber Leigh Rowland is a former employee of the state attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable GINGER BOWDEN MADDEN, to avoid a conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety, has voluntarily disqualified herself and has requested the executive assignment of another State Attorney with respect to the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable LARRY BASFORD, State Attorney for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has agreed to accept an executive assignment in this matter; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Florida and of the ends of justice that the Honorable LARRY BASFORD discharge the duties of the Honorable GINGER BOWDEN MADDEN pursuant to section 27.14, Florida Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, Governor of Florida, in obedience to my solemn constitutional duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed," and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, issue the following Executive Order, effective immediately:

Section 1. The Honorable LARRY BASFORD, State Attorney for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable GINGER BOWDEN MADDEN, State Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Amber Leigh Rowland.

Section 2. The Assigned State Attorney or one or more Assistant State Attorneys and Investigators, who have been designated by the Assigned State Attorney, shall proceed immediately to the First Judicial Circuit of Florida, and are vested with the authority to perform the duties prescribed herein.

Section 3. All residents of the First Judicial Circuit are requested, and all public officials are directed, to cooperate and render whatever assistance is necessary to the Assigned State Attorney, so that justice may be served.

Section 4. The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including February 23, 2023.

Section 5. The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before January 23, 2023, if additional time is required.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this 23rd day of February 2022.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2022 FEB 23 PM 12:58
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED