

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 11-44

WHEREAS, the Honorable GLENN HESS, State Attorney for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that Michael Jerome Ford has been charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell, possession of marijuana less than 20 grams, possession of paraphernalia, felon in possession of ammunition, felon in possession of firearm or ammunition, grand theft of a firearm, carrying a concealed firearm during commission of a felony and giving a false name causing adverse affect, violations of the criminal laws of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable GLENN HESS has also advised the Governor that Michael Jerome Ford is related to an employee of the state attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable GLENN HESS, to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest or impropriety, has voluntarily disqualified himself 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 WILLIAM EDDINS, State Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit of Florida, has agreed to accept an executive assignment in this matter; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State of Florida and of the ends of justice that the Honorable WILLIAM EDDINS discharge the duties of the Honorable GLENN HESS, pursuant to Section 27.14, Florida Statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, 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 WILLIAM EDDINS, State Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable GLENN HESS, State Attorney for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution and all matters related to Michael Jerome Ford.

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 Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, and are vested with the authority to perform the duties prescribed above.

Section 3.

All residents of the Fourteenth 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 March 9, 2012.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before February 9, 2012, 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 9th day of March, 2011.


GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED