

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 14-47

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that a complaint was made against Michael Ewing, a Captain with the Martin County Sheriff's Office, for accessing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' Driver and Vehicle Information Database (DAVID), while on duty, to facilitate a political campaign; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON has also advised the Governor that he has known Michael Ewing for many years and is also long time friends with Michael Ewing's wife, the former Clerk of Court for Martin County; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, to avoid a conflict of interest or any appearance of 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 DAVID A. ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth 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 DAVID A. ARONBERG discharge the duties of the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, 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 DAVID A. ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution and all matters related to Michael Ewing.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Nineteenth 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 10, 2015.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before January 10, 2015, 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 10th day of February, 2014.



RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA