

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 21-153

(Executive Order of Suspension)

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 7(c) of Florida Constitution provides in relevant part that “[b]y order of the Governor any elected municipal officer indicted for crime may be suspended from office until acquitted”; and

WHEREAS, Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald is presently serving as City Commissioner for the City of Lake Wales, Florida, having been elected by the voters of the City of Lake Wales for a four-year term which began on May 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2021, Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald was charged by Information for the felony charges of interference with custody, in violation of section 787.03, Florida Statutes, and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill, in violation of section 784.021, Florida Statutes, for conduct on or about June 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, violations of sections 787.03 and 784.021, Florida Statutes, constitute felonies in the third degree; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the residents of the City of Lake Wales and the citizens of the State of Florida, that Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald be immediately suspended from the public office which she now holds, upon the grounds set forth in this executive order.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, Governor of Florida, pursuant to Article IV, Section 7(c), and section 112.51, Florida Statutes, find as follows:

- A. Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald, and at all times material hereto was, City Commissioner for the City of Lake Wales, Florida.

- B. The office of City Commissioner for Lake Wales, Florida, is within the purview of the suspension powers of the Governor, pursuant to Article IV, Section 7(c) and Chapter 112 of the Florida Statutes.
- C. The Information alleges that Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald committed felony acts in violation of the Laws of Florida while serving as a City Commissioner. This suspension is predicated upon the attached Information which is incorporated as if fully set forth in this Executive Order.

BEING FULLY ADVISED in the premises, and in accordance with the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Florida, this Executive Order is issued, effective immediately:

Section 1. Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald is suspended from the public office, which she now holds, to wit: City Commissioner for the City of Lake Wales, Florida.

Section 2. Kristen Tieshia Fitzgerald is prohibited from performing any official act, duty, or function of public office; from receiving any pay or allowance; and from being entitled to any of the emoluments or privileges of public office during the period of this suspension, which period shall be from today, until further Executive Order is issued, or as otherwise provided by law.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at the Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida, this 7th day of July, 2021.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

2021 JUL -7 PM 2:47

FILED

AM
6/24/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE #: 53-2021-CF-004118-A000-XX

vs.

KRISTEN TIESHIA FITZGERALD, BF, 03/20/1980
_____ /

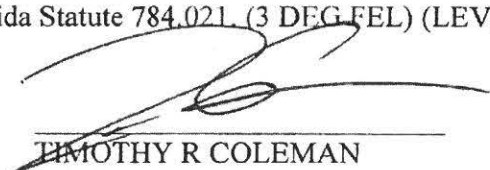
INFORMATION FOR:

- 1) INTERFERENCE WITH CUSTODY
- 2) AGGRAVATED ASSAULT (DEADLY WEAPON)

In the Name and by Authority of the State of Florida:

BRIAN HAAS, State Attorney for the Tenth, Judicial Circuit, by and through his undersigned Assistant State Attorney, charges, that KRISTEN TIESHIA FITZGERALD on or about June 2, 2021, in the County of Polk and State of Florida, without lawful authority, knowingly or recklessly took or enticed, or aided, abetted, hired, or otherwise procured another to take or entice, **NASHID JENKINS**, a child 17 years of age or under, from the custody of his guardian, a public agency having the lawful charge of the child, or any other lawful custodian, contrary to Florida Statute 787.03. (3 DEG FEL) (LEVEL1)

COUNT 2: Informant aforesaid, under oath, further information makes that KRISTEN TIESHIA FITZGERALD on or about June 2, 2021, in the County of Polk and State of Florida, did intentionally and unlawfully threaten by word or act to do violence to the person of **NASHID JENKINS**, coupled with an apparent ability to do so, and did which created a well-founded fear in **NASHID JENKINS** that such violence was imminent, and further did commit the assault with a firearm, a deadly weapon, contrary to Florida Statute 784.021. (3 DEG FEL) (LEVEL 6)



TIMOTHY R COLEMAN

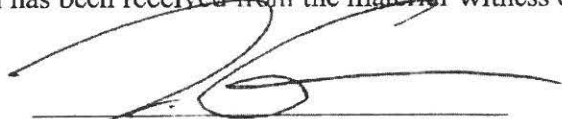
FL. BAR NO.: 0830291

Assistant State Attorney

Polk County, Florida

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF POLK

Appeared before me, TIMOTHY R COLEMAN, Assistant State Attorney for Polk County, Florida, personally known to me, who, being first duly sworn, says that the allegations as set forth in the foregoing information are based upon facts that have been sworn to as true, and which, if true, would constitute the offense therein charged, that this prosecution is instituted in good faith, and certifies that testimony under oath has been received from the material witness or witnesses for the offense.



Assistant State Attorney

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 24 day of June, 2021.



TOSHIA WILLIS
Commission # GG 355340
Expires July 16, 2023
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

Toshia Willis
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Florida

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE #: 53-2021-CF-004118-A000-XX

VS.

KRISTEN TIESHIA FITZGERALD, BF, 03/20/1980

The Office of the State Attorney has dealt with the charges listed on the complaint affidavit as follows:

CHARGES OF AFFIDAVIT

1. SAME

2. SAME

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

CHARGES FILED

- 1) INTERFERENCE WITH CUSTODY
- 2) AGGRAVATED ASSAULT (DEADLY WEAPON)

Issue: Capias _____

Summons _____

Dated this 24 day of June, 2021.

BRIAN HAAS
STATE ATTORNEY



Assistant State Attorney
Fl. Bar #: 0830291

Original Clerk
cc: Polk County Jail, Classification Officer