

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 22-169 (State Attorney Executive Assignment)

WHEREAS, the Honorable MONIQUE H. WORRELL, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that Jose Alfonso Cotto has filed a motion requesting release of defendant's passport; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRIAN HAAS, State Attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, was assigned under Executive Order 17-298, as extended by Executive Order 18-306, to handle charges for which the defendant was convicted, and his passport was surrendered; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable MONIQUE H. WORRELL has also advised the Governor that the original conflict continues to exist as an employee of the state attorneys' office was a witness in the original case and is also related to the victim; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable MONIQUE H. WORRELL, 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 regarding the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters regarding Jose Alfonso Cotto; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRIAN HAAS, State Attorney for the Tenth 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 BRIAN HAAS discharge the duties of the Honorable MONIQUE H. WORRELL, 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 BRIAN HAAS, State Attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable MONIQUE H. WORRELL, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, regarding the investigation and prosecution of this case all related matters regarding Jose Alfonso Cotto.

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

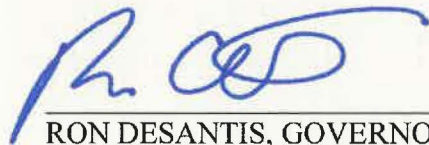
Section 3. All residents of the Ninth Judicial Circuit are requested, and all public officials are directed, to cooperate and render whatever assistance is necessary to the Assigned State Attorney, so that justice may be served.

Section 4. The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including July 26, 2023.

Section 5. The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before June 26, 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 26th day of July, 2022.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2022 JUL 26 PM 1:46
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED