

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 23-164 (State Attorney Executive Assignment)

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that Wade Edwards has been charged with aggravated battery – cause bodily harm or disability and shooting into an occupied vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG has also advised the Governor that a current employee of the state attorney’s office is related to the defendant and victim; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, 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 regarding the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters regarding Wade Edwards; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable HAROLD F. PRYOR, State Attorney for the Seventeenth 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 HAROLD F. PRYOR discharge the duties of the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, 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 HAROLD F. PRYOR, State Attorney for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge

the duties of the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, regarding the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters regarding Wade Edwards.

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

Section 3. All residents of the Fifteenth 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 August 16, 2024.

Section 5. The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before July 16, 2024, 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 16th day of August, 2023.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2023 AUG 16 PM 2:42
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED