

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 11-121

WHEREAS, the Honorable DENNIS WARD, State Attorney for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has conducted an investigation regarding a boating accident, with possible criminal charges, involving William O'Brien; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DENNIS WARD has also advised the Governor that he has a close personal and professional relationship with William O'Brien, who is the former Chief of Police for the City of Miami; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DENNIS WARD, 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 potential prosecution of this case and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL, State Attorney for the Twentieth 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 STEPHEN B. RUSSELL discharge the duties of the Honorable DENNIS WARD, 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, do hereby issue the following Executive Order, effective immediately:

Section 1.

The Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL, State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida, hereinafter referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is hereby assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable MICHAEL J SATZ, State Attorney for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, potential prosecution and all matters related to William O'Brien.

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

Section 3.

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

Section 4.

The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including June 3, 2012.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before May 3, 2011, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2011.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis", written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Atkinson", written over a horizontal line.  
SECRETARY OF STATE

2011 JUN -3 PM 4:30  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED