STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 12-135

WHEREAS, the Honorable ROBERT L. JARVIS, JR., State Attorney for the Third Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that Markus Anthony Smith has been charged in two cases with violation of probation; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable ROBERT L. JARVIS, JR. has also advised the Governor that Markus Anthony Smith was related by marriage to an employee of the state attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable ROBERT L. JARVIS, JR., 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 prosecution of this case and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable WILLIAM N. MEGGS, State Attorney for the Second 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 WILLIAM N. MEGGS discharge the duties of the Honorable ROBERT L. JARVIS, JR., 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 WILLIAM N. MEGGS, State Attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable ROBERT L. JARVIS, JR., State Attorney for the Third Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution and all matters related to Markus Anthony Smith.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Third 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 June 20, 2013.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before May 20, 2013, 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 20th day of June, 2012.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE