STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 12-80

WHEREAS, the Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL, State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that George Mitar IV has filed a motion to allow supervised contact with certain minors; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL has also advised the Governor that George Mitar IV is the son of a close personal friend; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL, 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 motion to allow supervised contact with certain minors and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable PETER ANTONACCI, State Attorney for the Fifteenth 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 PETER ANTONACCI discharge the duties of the Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL, 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 PETER ANTONACCI, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable STEPHEN B. RUSSELL, State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the motion to allow supervised contact with certain minors filed by George Mitar IV.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Twentieth 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 March 30, 2013.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before February 28, 2013, if additional time is required.



ATTEST:

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 30th day of March, 2012.

GOVERNOR

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