STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 13-351

(Executive Order of Suspension)

WHEREAS, Jennifer D. Portu, is presently serving as a Notary Public of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, this Office received a complaint of notary misconduct filed against Jennifer D.

Portu and thereafter initiated an investigation of alleged violations of the laws governing Florida

notaries public contained in Chapter 117, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, by letters dated September 27, 2013, and October 18, 2013, this Office notified Jennifer D. Portu of the investigation of notary misconduct and required that she submit a sworn written response to each reported violation, which included notarizing an instrument when the signing party was not in her presence at the time of the notarization, in violation of Section 117.107(9), Florida Statutes; and, notarizing a signature without satisfactory evidence of the signatory's identity, in violation of Section 117.05(5), Florida Statutes; and, falsely or fraudulently taking an acknowledgment or making a certificate as a notary public by forging the signature of another person that was thereafter notarized, in violation of Section 117.105, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, to date, Jennifer D. Portu has refused to cooperate with, or respond to, the investigation by this Office regarding the complaint of notary misconduct, which constitutes a neglect of duty warranting the suspension of her commission, pursuant to Section 117.01(4)(c), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the citizens of the State of Florida that Jennifer D.

Portu, be immediately suspended from the public office, which she now holds, upon the grounds set forth in this Executive Order:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of Florida, pursuant to Article IV, Section 7 of the Florida Constitution and Section 117.01(4), Florida Statutes, find and state as follows:

- A. Jennifer D. Portu is a duly appointed Notary Public of the State of Florida, pursuant to Section 117.01, Florida Statutes.
- B. Jennifer D. Portu is commissioned as a Florida notary public from April 26, 2012, through April 25, 2016.
- C. Jennifer D. Portu refused to cooperate or respond to an investigation of notary misconduct by the Executive Office of the Governor, as required by Section 117.01(4)(c), Florida Statutes.

BEING FULLY ADVISED in the premise, and in accordance with the Florida Constitution and the laws of the State of Florida, this Executive Order is issued:

Section 1. Jennifer D. Portu is suspended from the public office which she now holds: Notary Public of the State of Florida.

Section 2. Jennifer D. Portu is prohibited from performing any official act, duty, or function of this public office; from receiving any pay or allowance; and from being entitled to any of the emoluments or privileges of this public office during the period of suspension, which shall begin today until further Executive Order is issued, or as otherwise provided by law.

ATTEST:

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 10th day of December, 2013.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

Ven Detzens SECRETARY OF STATE