

STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 14-61
(Executive Order of Suspension)

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Hardman, is presently serving as a Notary Public of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on or about September 26, 2013, Mary Lou Hardman was convicted in the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, in and for Hernando County, in case number 2013CF000308, of one count of Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card, a third-degree felony in violation of Section 817.61 Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, on or about September 26, 2013, Mary Lou Hardman was convicted in the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, in and for Hernando County, in case number 2013CF000370, of Possession of a Controlled Substance, a third-degree felony in violation of Section 893.13(6)(a), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Hardman failed to notify the Department of State of the above-stated changes to her criminal history record during her commission as a Florida notary public, as required by Section 117.01(2); and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2014, and January 22, 2014 this Office notified Mary Lou Hardman by certified mail, and required that she respond to the investigation conducted by this Office regarding her felonies while commissioned as a Florida notary public; and

WHEREAS, during the investigation by this Office, it was discovered that Mary Lou Hardman had moved from the address on file and had failed to notify the Department of State of the change in her address within 60 days, as required by Section 117.01(2), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, to date, this Office has not received the required response from Mary Lou Hardman; and

WHEREAS, the Governor is authorized by Article IV, Section 7 of the Florida Constitution to suspend from office by executive order an appointed public official for the commission of a felony; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the citizens of the State of Florida that Mary Lou Hardman 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. Mary Lou Hardman is a duly appointed Notary Public of the State of Florida, pursuant to Section 117.01, Florida Statutes.
- B. Mary Lou Hardman is commissioned as a Florida notary public from April 11, 2011, through April 10, 2015.
- C. Mary Lou Hardman was convicted of two felonies in Hernando County in 2013, while commissioned as a Florida notary public.
- D. Mary Lou Hardman failed to notify the Department of State of the changes to her criminal history record following the felony convictions in Hernando County in 2013, as required by Section 117.01(2), Florida Statutes.

- E. Mary Lou Hardman failed to notify the Department of State within 60 days of her change of address, in violation of Section 117.01(2), Florida Statutes
- F. Mary Lou Hardman 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. Mary Lou Hardman is suspended from the public office which she now holds: Notary Public of the State of Florida.

Section 2. Mary Lou Hardman 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.

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 12th day of February, 2014.



RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR



ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

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STATE
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA