

**STATE OF FLORIDA**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 14-76**  
(Executive Order of Suspension)

**WHEREAS**, Melissa G. Cribbs, is presently serving as a Notary Public of the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about March 5, 2013, Melissa G. Cribbs was convicted in the Circuit Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, in and for Pasco County, in case number 2012CF008357, of one count of Grand Theft (more than \$300, less than \$5,000), a third-degree felony in violation of Section 812.014(2)(c)1., Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about March 11, 2013, Melissa G. Cribbs was convicted in the Circuit Court of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Hillsborough County, in case number 2011CF015689, of one count of Trafficking in Illegal Drugs (more than 4 grams, less than 14 grams), a first-degree felony in violation of Section 893.135(1)(c)1.a., Florida Statutes, and one count of Obtaining a Controlled Substance by Fraud, a third-degree felony in violation of Section 893.13(7)(a)9., Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, Melissa G. Cribbs failed to notify the Department of State of the above-stated changes to her criminal history record while commissioned as a Florida notary public, as required by Section 117.01(2); and

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 2014, and January 22, 2014 this Office notified Melissa G. Cribbs 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 Melissa G. Cribbs 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 Melissa G. Cribbs; 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 Melissa G. Cribbs 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. Melissa G. Cribbs is a duly appointed Notary Public of the State of Florida, pursuant to Section 117.01, Florida Statutes.
- B. Melissa G. Cribbs is commissioned as a Florida notary public from June 21, 2010, through June 20, 2014.
- C. Melissa G. Cribbs was convicted of three separate felonies in Hillsborough and Pasco Counties in 2013, while commissioned as a Florida notary public.
- D. Melissa G. Cribbs failed to notify the Department of State of the changes to her criminal history record following the felony convictions in Hillsborough and Pasco Counties in 2013, as required by Section 117.01(2), Florida Statutes.

E. Melissa G. Cribbs 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. Melissa G. Cribbs 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. Melissa G. Cribbs is suspended from the public office which she now holds: Notary Public of the State of Florida.

Section 2. Melissa G. Cribbs 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

2014 FEB 25 4:10:14  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA