

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 14-327

**WHEREAS**, on August 6, 2013, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida filed a complaint charging Michael Pizzi (“Pizzi”), then mayor of Miami Lakes, with conspiracy to commit extortion. The complaint charged Pizzi with accepting four bribes from FBI undercover operatives posing as businessmen in exchange for using his official position to support sham federal grant applications for economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of this complaint, on August 6, 2013 Pizzi was suspended from office under the provisions of section 112.51, Florida Statutes, by Executive Order No. 13-217; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 1, 2013, the Town of Miami Lakes held a special election for a new mayor, which was won by Wayne Slaton, who is now the Mayor of Miami Lakes; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 28, 2014, the United States Attorney filed a seven-count indictment charging Pizzi with one count of conspiracy to commit extortion, four counts of attempted extortion (bribery), and two counts of bribery concerning programs receiving federal funds; and

**WHEREAS**, at Pizzi’s trial in July through August, 2014, he did not contest that monies were paid to him, but claimed among other things, that he had been entrapped by federal authorities into accepting the bribes; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 14, 2014, a jury acquitted Pizzi; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 21, 2014, Pizzi filed in the Supreme Court of Florida a petition for writ of mandamus directing the Governor to enter an order revoking Executive Order No. 13-217; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 29, 2014, the Supreme Court requested that the Governor respond to the petition, “on the narrow issue of why Executive Order 2013-217 should not be revoked;” and

WHEREAS, in its Order the Supreme Court emphasized that it was not suggesting that “Governor Scott is required to order that Petitioner Pizzi be reinstated to his former municipal office, which has been filled by operation of a special election in accordance with the Charter of the Town of Miami Lakes, Florida;” and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2014, the Supreme Court issued an order stating that the Governor is required to revoke the order authorizing Pizzi’s suspension, which was issued at the time of his arrest.

NOW THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of Florida, issue this Executive Order:

Section 1. Executive Order 13-217, which authorized Pizzi’s suspension, is hereby revoked.

Section 2. In accordance with the above-mentioned Orders of the Supreme Court, this Order does not reinstate Michael Pizzi to the office of Mayor of the Town of Miami Lakes, Florida.



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 22nd day of December 2014.

Handwritten signature of Rick Scott in black ink.

\_\_\_\_\_  
RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Ken Retzner in black ink.

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SECRETARY OF STATE

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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