

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 15-141

WHEREAS, the Honorable R.J. LARIZZA, State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that the Port Orange Police Department is investigating the shooting death of Michelle Castle; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable R.J. LARIZZA has also advised the Governor that the mother of the potential suspect works for the Attorney General's Office and has a close working relationship with the homicide unit of the state attorney's office. Also, a former assistant state attorney represented the potential suspect on the night of the shooting; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable R.J. LARIZZA, to avoid a conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety, has voluntarily disqualified himself and has requested the executive assignment of another State Attorney with respect to the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable JERRY HILL, State Attorney for the Tenth 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 JERRY HILL discharge the duties of the Honorable R.J. LARIZZA, 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 JERRY HILL, State Attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable R.J. LARIZZA, State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution and all matters related to the Port Orange Police Department's investigation into the death of Michelle Castle.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Seventh 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 July 28, 2016.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before June 28, 2016, if additional time is required.



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 28th day of July, 2015.



RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2015 JUL 28 PM 2:30
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED