

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 16-121

WHEREAS, the Honorable JERRY HILL, State Attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that Allison Gibson has been arrested for interception of an oral communication; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable JERRY HILL has also advised the Governor that Allison Gibson was an employee of the state attorney's office and several other employees of the state attorney's office are witnesses in this case; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable JERRY HILL, 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 JEFFREY L. ASHTON, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has agreed to accept an executive assignment in this matter; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Florida and of the ends of justice that the Honorable JEFFREY L. ASHTON discharge the duties of the Honorable JERRY HILL, 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 JEFFREY L. ASHTON, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable JERRY HILL, State Attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Allison Gibson.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Tenth 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 May 9, 2017.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before April 9, 2017, 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 9th day of May, 2016.

A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, written in a cursive style.

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

ATTEST:

A black ink signature of Ken Ritzman, written in a cursive style.  
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SECRETARY OF STATE

**FILED**  
2016 MAY -9 AM 11:07  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA