

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 16-171

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida, by constitutional amendment, have declared that a public office is a public trust and the people have a right to secure and sustain that trust against abuse; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Commission on Ethics has been created to assure that public officers and employees do not abuse the trust placed in them; and

WHEREAS, Rick Justice was at all times material hereto a member of the Hardee County Industrial Development Authority (IDA), and as such was subject to the provisions of the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, Part III of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, and subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission on Ethics; and

WHEREAS, in the Final Order and Public Report No. 16-061 rendered on June 8, 2016, the Commission on Ethics found that Rick Justice violated section 112.313(3), Florida Statutes, by his agency, the IDA, doing business with First National Bank of Wauchula, for which he serves as an officer; violated section 112.313(7)(a), Florida Statutes, by having employment or a contractual relationship with First National Bank of Wauchula, while it was doing business with his agency, the IDA; violated section 112.3143(3)(a), Florida Statutes, by failing to follow disclosure requirements after abstaining from an August 15, 2008, vote that inured to his special private gain or loss, and/or his principal, and/or his business associates; and violated section 112.3143(3)(a), Florida Statutes, by voting on a July 14, 2009, matter that inured to his special private gain or loss, and/or his principal, and or his business associates; and

WHEREAS, the Governor accepts the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission on Ethics Final Order and Public Report No. 16-061.

NOW THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of Florida, in obedience to my constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, issue this Executive Order, effective immediately, declaring that:

1. Rick Justice violated sections 112.313(3) and 112.313(7)(a), Florida Statutes, and twice violated section 112.3143(3)(a), Florida Statutes.
2. A civil penalty in the amount of \$4,000 for the violations of sections 112.313(3), 112.313(7)(a), and 112.3143(3)(a), Florida Statutes, is hereby imposed against Justice, which shall be satisfied within thirty (30) days of the date of this order. Payment must be submitted with a written statement under oath by Justice that the penalty amount was not paid with public funds and will not be reimbursed with public funds.
3. Rick Justice is hereby publicly censured and reprimanded.

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 27th day of July, 2016.



  
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RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
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SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED  
2016 JUL 27 PM 1:30  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA