

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 16-172

WHEREAS, the Honorable ANGELA B. COREY, State Attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that a grand jury investigation has been requested regarding possible violations of the Election Code by Melissa Nelson, a candidate for State Attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable ANGELA B. COREY has also advised the Governor that the request for a grand jury investigation was made by Wesley White, who is also a candidate for the State Attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, and for which Angela B. Corey is seeking re-election; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable ANGELA B. COREY, to avoid a conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety, has voluntarily disqualified herself 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 WILLIAM P. CERVONE, State Attorney for the Eighth 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 WILLIAM P. CERVONE discharge the duties of the Honorable ANGELA B. COREY, 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 WILLIAM P. CERVONE, State Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable ANGELA B. COREY, State Attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Melissa Nelson.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Fourth 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 August 2, 2017.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before July 2, 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 2nd day of August, 2016.



RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED
2016 AUG - 2 AM 10:36
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA