

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 16-249

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that Circuit Court Judge William Roby has filed a complaint against Guss Investments Group LLC, Robert Saurman, one of its employees, and unnamed attorneys representing Guss Investments Group LLC. The complaint alleges that Judge Roby is the victim of forgery, fraudulent practices, and perjury; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON has also advised the Governor that while Judge Roby is not currently assigned to criminal cases, he has been in the past, and will likely be assigned again in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, 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 DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth 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 DAVID ARONBERG discharge the duties of the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, 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 DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to the complaint made by Judge William Roby against Guss Investments Group LLC, Robert Saurman, one of its employees, and unnamed attorneys representing Guss Investments Group LLC.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Nineteenth 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 November 1, 2017.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before October 1, 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 1st day of November, 2016.



RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED