

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 16-98

WHEREAS, the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE, State Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that a report was made against Zac Zedalis for possible child abuse; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE has also advised the Governor that Zac Zedalis and the mother of the potential victim are former deputies with the Alachua County Sheriff's Office with which the state attorney has a relationship; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE, 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 SIEGMEISTER, State Attorney for the Third 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 SIEGMEISTER discharge the duties of the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE, 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 SIEGMEISTER, State Attorney for the Third Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE, State Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Zac Zedalis.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Eighth 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 April 7, 2017.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before March 7, 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 7th day of April, 2016.

A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A blue ink signature of Ken Ritzman, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA