

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 17-140

WHEREAS, the Honorable MICHAEL J. SATZ, State Attorney for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that William Walton has been charged with grand theft by fraud (more than \$20,000) and grand theft (more than \$20,000, less than \$100,000); and

WHEREAS, the Honorable KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE, State Attorney for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, was previously assigned by Executive Order 16-46 to investigate the allegations leading to the arrest of William Walton in the present case; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable MICHAEL J. SATZ has also advised the Governor that the original conflict continues to exist, as the victim is a current circuit court judge in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable MICHAEL J. SATZ, 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 KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE, State Attorney for the Eleventh 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 KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE discharge the duties of the Honorable MICHAEL J. SATZ, 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 KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE, State Attorney for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable MICHAEL J. SATZ, State Attorney for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to William Walton.

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

Section 3.

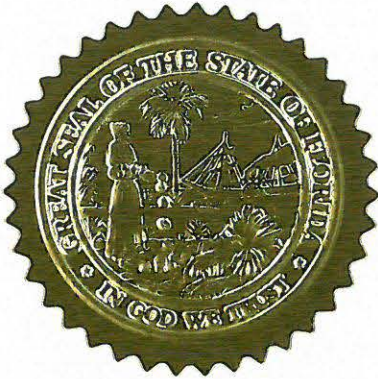
All residents of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit are requested, and all public officials are directed, to cooperate and render whatever assistance is necessary to the Assigned State Attorney, so that justice may be served.

Section 4.

The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including May 1, 2018.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before April 1, 2018, 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 May, 2017.

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.

SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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FILED