

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 17-233

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that Duane Eugene Owen has pending postconviction motions; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG has also advised the Governor that the State Attorney for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit was previously assigned to handle the original case under Executive Order 01-149, and extended by Executive Orders 03-155, 04-100, 05-95, 06-119, 07-120, and 08-80; and

WHEREAS, the original conflict continues to exist as an employee of the State Attorney's Office was defense counsel on the case at one time; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, 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 ANDREW H. WARREN, State Attorney for the Thirteenth 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 ANDREW H. WARREN discharge the duties of the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, 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 ANDREW H. WARREN, State Attorney for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Duane Eugene Owen.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Fifteenth 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 30, 2018.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before July 30, 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 30th day of August, 2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", written over a horizontal line.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Ritzman", written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE

2017 AUG 30 PM 3:16
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED