

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 17-66

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2017, State Attorney ARAMIS D. AYALA publicly announced that she will not seek the death penalty in the upcoming criminal prosecution of Markeith Loyd for two counts of First-Degree Murder, for the killings of Sade Dixon, his pregnant ex-girlfriend and of Lt. Debra Clayton of the Orlando Police Department regardless of circumstances of those capital felonies and without regard for the presence of applicable statutory aggravators; and

WHEREAS, the ends of justice will best be served and there is good and sufficient reason to order the assignment of another state attorney to discharge the duties of State Attorney ARAMIS D. AYALA with respect to the investigation and prosecution of Markeith Loyd; and

WHEREAS, BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth 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 State Attorney BRAD KING discharge the duties of State Attorney ARAMIS D. AYALA, 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.

BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of ARAMIS D. AYALA, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Markeith Loyd.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Ninth 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.

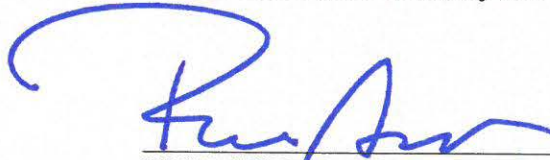
The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including March 16, 2018.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before February 16, 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 16th day of March, 2017.


RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

2017 MAR 16 PM 3:53
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED