

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 19-160

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that Thomas Fraser Barrett was arrested for burglary of a dwelling, strongarm robbery, witness tampering and simple battery; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING has also advised the Governor that Thomas Fraser Barrett is related to employee of the state attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING, 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 ARAMIS D. AYALA, State Attorney for the Ninth 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 ARAMIS D. AYALA discharge the duties of the Honorable BRAD KING, pursuant to section 27.14, Florida Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, 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 ARAMIS D. AYALA, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Thomas Fraser Barrett.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Fifth 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 July 12, 2020.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before June 12, 2020, 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 12th day of July, 2019.

RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

2019 JUL 12 AM 11:21

FILED