

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 19-201

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that Matt Richardson has been charged with felony retail theft, perjury in an official proceeding, failure to appear and tampering with evidence; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON has also advised the Governor that the defendant was represented by a current assistant state attorney on three of the counts, prior to his employment with the state attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, 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 DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth 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 DAVID ARONBERG discharge the duties of the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, 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 DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable BRUCE H. COLTON, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Matt Richardson.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Nineteenth 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 September 16, 2020.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before August 16, 2020, if additional time is required.

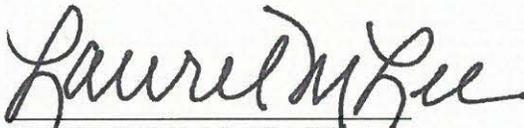


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this 16th day of September, 2019.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

2019 SEP 16 PM 3:14

FILED