

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20-26

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-24 assigning the Honorable BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit, to the Ninth Judicial Circuit, to discharge the duties of the Honorable ARAMIS D. AYALA, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida, regarding the criminal investigation into the death of Nicole Montalvo and the arrest of Christopher Otero-Rivera and Angel Rivera; and

WHEREAS, a preliminary review of the case revealed that additional persons, Nicholas Rivera and Wanda Rivera, who are related to the case in some manner, have outstanding charges; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Rivera has pending charges of eight counts of possession of child pornography and Wanda Rivera has a pending charge of false statement to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Rivera is related to Christopher Otero-Rivera and Angel Rivera and has potential testimonial evidence concerning the death of Nicole Montalvo; and

WHEREAS, Wanda Rivera's outstanding charge relates to the investigation into the death of Nicole Montalvo; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Florida, and to protect the public and ensure the ends of justice for the victim and families that Ninth Circuit State Attorney

Aramis Ayala be discharged of her duties in these matters, pursuant to section 27.14, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has agreed to accept an executive assignment in these matters; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Florida and of the ends of justice that the Honorable BRAD KING discharge the duties of the Honorable ARAMIS D. AYALA, 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 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 the Honorable ARAMIS D. AYALA, State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Nicholas Rivera and Wanda Rivera.

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 February 11, 2021.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before January 11, 2021, 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 11th day of February, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY OF STATE

2020 FEB 11 PM 4:20  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED