



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 23, 2014

CONTACT: GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

(850) 717-9282

media@eog.myflorida.com

Governor Scott Appoints Three to the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointments of Howard K. Coates, Kirk C. Volker, and Edward Artau to the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court.

Coates 55, of Palm Beach Gardens, has been a member of McDonald Hopkins, LLC since 2009. Previously, he practiced at the Coates Law Firm from 2004-2009 and began his legal career in 1986 with King & Spalding. Coates currently serves as a Village of Wellington Councilmember. Coates received his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida, his master's degree from Florida Atlantic University, and his law degree from Yale Law School. He fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Timothy McCarthy.

Governor Rick Scott said, "Howard has worked hard to serve Florida families. I know that he will be a tremendous addition to the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court bench and that he will continue to lead with distinction."

Volker 55, of Palm Beach Gardens, is an Assistant State Attorney in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. He practiced with Lubin, Volker & Olea, P.A. from 1999-2004, and with Walton Lantaff Schroeder & Carson, P.A. in 1990. Volker received his bachelor's degree from the University of South Florida and his law degree from Stetson University College of Law. He fills a vacancy created by the appointment of Judge Robin Rosenberg to the Federal District Court.

Governor Rick Scott said, "Kirk's years of service as a prosecutor has proven his commitment to serving and protecting Florida families. His experience and knowledge of the law will be a great asset in his new role on the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court bench."

Artau 50, of Delray Beach, is the General Counsel for the South Florida Water Management District. Previously, he was partner with Marks & Artau, P.A. from 1996-2004. Artau also practiced with Proskauer Rose, LLP from 1993-1996 and with Hodgson Russ, LLP from 1988-1993. Artau received his bachelor's degree from Nova Southeastern University and his law degree from Georgetown University. He fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Ronald Alvarez.

Governor Rick Scott said, "With more than two decades of legal experience, Ed will be a strong addition to the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court bench and I am confident he will honorably serve Florida families."

###