

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020E-02

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida, by constitutional amendment, have declared that a public office is a public trust and the people have a right to secure and sustain that trust against abuse; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Commission on Ethics has been created to assure that public officers and employees do not abuse the trust placed in them; and

WHEREAS, Ricky Thompson is at all times material hereto the City Clerk for the City of Starke, and as such was subject to the provisions of the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, Part III of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, and subject to the jurisdictions of the Commission on Ethics; and

WHEREAS, in the Final Order and Public Report No. 18-153 rendered on December 12, 2018, the Commission on Ethics found that Ricky Thompson violated section 112.313(6), Florida Statutes, by interfering with the supervision of another public official's subordinate and/or obtaining inappropriate benefits for the subordinate; and

WHEREAS, the Governor accepts the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission on Ethics Final Order and Public Report No. 18-153.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, Governor of Florida, in obedience to my constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, issue this Executive Order, effective immediately, declaring that:

1. Ricky Thompson violated section 112.313(6), Florida Statutes, by interfering with the supervision of another public official's subordinate and/or obtaining inappropriate benefits for the subordinate.
2. A civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000 for the violation of section 112.313(6), Florida Statutes, is hereby imposed against Thompson, which shall be satisfied within thirty (30) days of the date of this order. Payment must be submitted with a written statement under oath by Thompson that the penalty amount was not paid with public funds and will not be reimbursed with public funds.
3. Ricky Thompson is hereby publicly censured and reprimanded.



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

DATE: February 11, 2020

By:

Joseph Jacquot
GENERAL COUNSEL

On behalf of and by the authority of Governor Ron DeSantis

ATTEST:

Laurel M. Lee
Laurel M. Lee
SECRETARY OF STATE

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