

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020E-11

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, Samuel Stevens is at all times material hereto a City Councilmember and Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Midway, 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. 19-030 rendered on June 12, 2019, the Commission on Ethics found that Samuel Stevens violated section 112.3135, Florida Statutes, by voting on the appointment and/or advocating for the appointment of his relative to a position within the agency and/or his collegial body voting to appoint and/or advance his relative; and

WHEREAS, the Governor accepts the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission on Ethics Final Order and Public Report No. 19-030.

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. Samuel Stevens violated section 112.3135, Florida Statutes, by voting on the appointment and/or advocating for the appointment of his relative to a position within the agency and/or his collegial body voting to appoint and/or advance his relative.
2. A civil penalty in the amount of \$500 for the violation of 112.3135, Florida Statutes, is hereby imposed against Stevens, 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 Stevens that the penalty amount was not paid with public funds and will not be reimbursed with public funds.
3. Samuel Stevens 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

2020 FEB 11 PM 4:07