

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 24-222 (State Attorney Executive Assignment)

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that a probable cause affidavit has been filed against John Mandia for allegations of written threats to kill or do bodily injury (3 counts); and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG has also advised the Governor that the victim is a current circuit court judge in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, 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 regarding the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters regarding John Mandia; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable THOMAS BAKKEDAHL, State Attorney for the Nineteenth 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 THOMAS BAKKEDAHL discharge the duties of the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, 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 THOMAS BAKKEDAHN, State Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable DAVID ARONBERG, State Attorney for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, regarding the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters regarding John Mandia.

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

Section 3. All residents of the Fifteenth 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 October 16, 2025.

Section 5. The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before September 16, 2025, 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 October, 2024.





RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2024 OCT 16 AM 9:44
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED