

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 19-70

WHEREAS, the Honorable AMIRA D. FOX, State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RON DESANTIS that as a result of an FDLE investigation regarding allegations made against Jay Rodriguez, an interrelated investigation is being conducted by the Fort Myers Police Department, in which Jay Rodriguez is a potential victim of extortion; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable ED BRODSKY, State Attorney for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Florida, is handling the FDLE investigation regarding allegations made against Jay Rodriguez under Executive Order 19-69; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable AMIRA D. FOX has also advised the Governor that Jay Rodriguez is an employee with the Fort Myers Police Department with which her office has a close working relationship; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable AMIRA D. FOX, to avoid a conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety, has voluntarily disqualified herself and has requested the executive assignment of another State Attorney with respect to the investigation and prosecution of this case and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRIAN HAAS, State Attorney for the Tenth 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 BRIAN HAAS discharge the duties of the Honorable AMIRA D. FOX, 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 BRIAN HAAS, State Attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the “Assigned State Attorney,” is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable AMIRA D. FOX, State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, prosecution, and all matters related to Jay Rodriguez.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Twentieth 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.

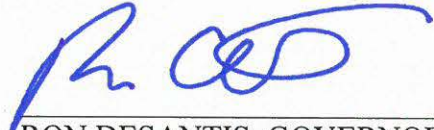
The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including March 8, 2020.

Section 5.

The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before February 8, 2020, 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 8th day of March, 2019.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA