

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 12-254

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has advised Governor RICK SCOTT that allegations have been made against Dan Kuhn, a candidate for, and who won, the primary election for Sheriff of Marion County, for falsifying time sheets and using agency vehicle and agency facilities inappropriately. Mr. Kuhn later withdrew from the general election for Marion County Sheriff and Chris Blair, was then designated as the Republican replacement candidate for Sheriff of Marion County and allegations have made against Mr. Blair for campaign finance law violations; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING has also advised the Governor that both Dan Kuhn and Chris Blair are former employees of the Marion County Sheriff's Office with whom he had had a working relationship; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable BRAD KING, to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest or impropriety, has voluntarily disqualified himself and has requested the executive assignment of another State Attorney with respect to the investigation and potential prosecution of this case and all related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE, State Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida, has agreed to accept an executive assignment in this matter; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State of Florida and of the ends of justice that the Honorable WILLIAM P. CERVONE discharge the duties of the Honorable BRAD KING, pursuant to Section 27.14, Florida Statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, 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 WILLIAM P. CERVONE, State Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida, referred to as the "Assigned State Attorney," is assigned to discharge the duties of the Honorable BRAD KING, State Attorney for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as they relate to the investigation, potential prosecution and all matters related to Dan Kuhn and Chris Blair.

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

Section 3.

All residents of the Fifth 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.

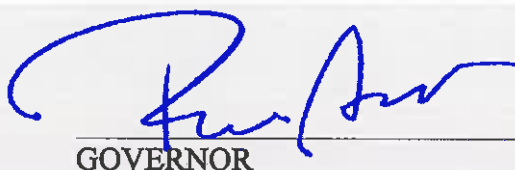
The period of this Executive Assignment shall be for one (1) year, to and including November 21, 2013.

Section 5.

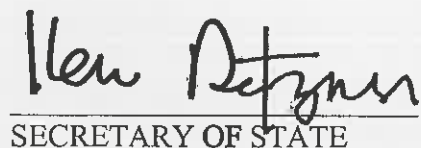
The Assigned State Attorney shall notify the Governor on or before October 21, 2013, if additional time is required.



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 21st day of November, 2012.


GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE