TO: All Senators  
FROM: Bill Galvano, President  
SUBJECT: Executive Order of Suspension 19-14, In re Mr. Scott Israel  
DATE: September 25, 2019

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, Special Master Dudley Goodlette delivered his advisory Report and Recommendation with regard to Executive Order 19-14. Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rule 12.7, I have referred the matter to the Rules Committee for its consideration and report.

Through the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 7(b) of the Florida Constitution, I have also convened the Senate in Special Session, beginning Monday, October 21, 2019 and ending Friday, October 25, 2019, for consideration of the removal or reinstatement of Mr. Scott Israel as Sheriff of Broward County. A sitting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. to convene the Special Session.

The report of Special Master Goodlette and the Special Session proclamation are included with this correspondence.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 12.7, the Report and Recommendation of the Special Master is advisory in nature. Whether a suspended official is ultimately removed from office or reinstated is determined by a vote of the Senate. Senate standards and precedent require that each Senator must be convinced, in her or his own conscience, that the evidence is sufficient to remove a person charged with a public trust. Therefore, I encourage each Senator to review all of the evidence, the arguments put forth by counsel for both parties, the Special Master’s advisory report, the recommendation of the Rules Committee and debate on the floor, and draw conclusions individually.

Written arguments and over 7,300 pages of evidence and depositional testimony submitted during proceedings, as well as links to recordings of the Special Master hearing, remain publicly available on the Senate website (http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/ExecutiveSuspensions). Additionally, there are 23 pages of confidential documents from the Governor’s exhibit “R”
(“Internal Investigation File for Deputy Treijs”), which are available for inspection only by Senators. To inspect these documents, please contact Christie Letarte at 850-487-5575.

As noted previously, because we are tasked by Florida’s Constitution to sit in judgment of the merits of this suspension, Senators should refrain from speaking publicly about the merits or substance of any executive suspension except in the Rules Committee meeting and the sitting of the Senate in Special Session.