

FILED
IN COMMON PLEAS COURT
2017 JAN -3 PM 3: 02

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO

DEWIS E. HAMMONSKI
CLERK OF COURTS
GEAUGA COUNTY

IN RE:)
)
) APPOINTMENT OF) JUDGE FORREST W. BURT
) SPECIAL PROSECUTING)
) ATTORNEY)
)
)
)
)
)

CASE NO. 17MISC 000285

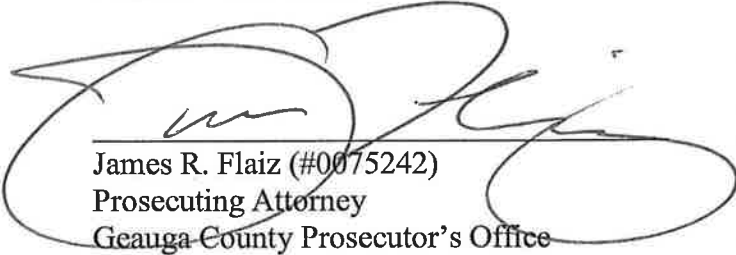
Now comes the State of Ohio, by and through James R. Flaiz, Geauga County Prosecuting Attorney, and hereby moves this Honorable Court for the appointment of a special prosecutor regarding Ohio Ethics Commission Case No. 14-Q-1002-043, with the same power and authority of the Geauga County Prosecuting Attorney. The undersigned seeks appointment of Attorney General Mike DeWine (#0009181); Assistant Attorney General Christian Sticken (#0013403); and any other assistants deemed necessary by them. Additionally, the undersigned seeks appointment of Julie M. Korte (#0061660), Chief Investigative Attorney, Ohio Ethics Commission, as special assistant prosecuting attorney. This appointment is sought for the investigation and prosecution of Ohio Ethics Commission Case No. 14-Q-1002-043 including, but not limited to, presentment of matters to the Geauga County Grand Jury, prosecution of any criminal violations, and any other action available that they consider necessary and appropriate.

For cause, the State of Ohio asserts that this matter involves the investigation and likely prosecution of elected official(s) within the county. While the political subdivision that

is the subject of this investigation is a municipality, meaning that a direct conflict does not exist, the undersigned is concerned that conflicts could arise with further investigation. Additionally, a large corporation based in Geauga County is also the subject of the above-referenced investigation. This corporation has numerous past and current contracts with Geauga County that are routinely reviewed by the Prosecutor's Office. Finally, many of the issues in this case involve Ohio Ethics laws. Counsel that are being proposed as special prosecuting attorneys have expertise in the investigation and prosecution of these types of cases.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing, the State of Ohio respectfully requests that this Honorable Court appoint a special prosecutor in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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Prosecuting Attorney
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