

STATE OF FLORIDA

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IN RE: MEETING OF THE GOVERNOR AND  
CABINET

\_\_\_\_\_ /

**VOLUME 1**

CABINET MEMBERS: GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL PAM BONDI  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER JEFF  
ATWATER  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE  
ADAM PUTNAM

DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016

LOCATION: CABINET MEETING ROOM  
LOWER LEVEL, THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REPORTED BY: NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, FPR  
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INDEX

PAGE NO.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

Discussion of Appointments for Department of Revenue Executive Director and Office of Insurance Regulation Commissioner	4
Appointments - Parole Qualifications Committee	24
Florida Department of Law Enforcement By Ms. Pence	28
Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund By Secretary Steverson	30

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**P R O C E E D I N G S**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
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GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good morning. Welcome to the January 21st Cabinet meeting.

To begin our meeting, I'd like to welcome Grace Cerio to lead this morning's invocation. Please remain standing after the invocation for the pledge of allegiance led by Mrs. Cloud's first grade really smart class at the Florida State University school, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Elizabeth and Ana Pusifer.

Grace, good morning.

(WHEREUPON, THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS SAID).

\* \* \* \*

## DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENTS

1  
2  
3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next we have the discussion  
4 of appointments of the Executive Director of the  
5 Department of Revenue and the Commissioner of the  
6 Office of Insurance Regulation.

7 In accordance to our Cabinet Governance  
8 Guidelines, we need to do several things: One  
9 update the position descriptions and pay  
10 compensation; announce an application timeline; and  
11 form an appointment selection committee and/or  
12 initiate a nationwide search for a candidate.

13 The last time we had a vacancy we set a  
14 timeframe for applications, advertised the position  
15 in nationally-recognized industry publications, and  
16 set a date to conduct public interviews during a  
17 Cabinet meeting. The Agencies submitted the  
18 current position description to each of our offices  
19 and posted on People First. The Agency received  
20 applications and sent them to our offices to review  
21 and post on the Cabinet website.

22 Is everybody okay with that, with the same  
23 process, first off? Everybody is okay with the  
24 process?

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Yes, Governor.

1           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. I recommend that  
2 during this meeting we set a timeframe for this  
3 process to avoid a vacancy at the Agencies. My  
4 office went through the calendar and pulled some  
5 dates for us to consider.

6           For the DOR Executive Director, whose  
7 resignation is effective April 1, we propose  
8 applications open on January 25th through  
9 March 11th. Each office can individually interview  
10 their selected applicants prior to the March 23  
11 Cabinet meeting -- Cabinet Aides meeting. During  
12 the March 23 Cabinet Aides meeting, each office  
13 will recommend candidates and staff will schedule  
14 public interviews for those selected individuals  
15 for the Cabinet meeting on March 29th.

16           Is everybody okay with this proposal?

17           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Yes, Governor.

18           GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Is everybody  
19 okay? Everybody is all right with it?

20           (AFFIRMATIVE INDICATIONS).

21           GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. For the OIR  
22 Commissioner whose resignation is effective May 2,  
23 applications would be opened on January 25th  
24 through April 8th. Each office will interview  
25 their selected applicants prior to the April 20

1 Cabinet Aides meeting. During the April 20th  
2 Cabinet Aides meeting, each office will recommend  
3 candidates and the staff will schedule public  
4 interviews for those selected individuals for the  
5 Cabinet meeting on April 26th.

6 So is everybody okay with those dates?

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Yes, Governor.

8 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Public interviews will  
9 be conducted by the Cabinet Aides; is that --

10 GOVERNOR SCOTT: No, no, what we'll do is  
11 you'll do them on your own. At the Cabinet Aides  
12 meeting each of us will have the opportunity to  
13 propose somebody, and then we'll do those public  
14 interviews at the next Cabinet meeting after that.

15 CFO ATWATER: Governor, I --

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Does that make sense?

17 CFO ATWATER: I think it's a good outline. I  
18 just would be curious if we'd be able to, I think,  
19 possibly move up about -- maybe about two weeks on  
20 the interview process, just that that individual  
21 will be coming in --

22 GOVERNOR SCOTT: You talking about OIR?

23 CFO ATWATER: On OIR.

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay.

25 CFO ATWATER: I don't know how long it might

1 take for all of those who would be nationally  
2 interested in seeing a posting, but if it's  
3 possible, my hope is just that we could get a  
4 person on the ground slightly ahead of hurricane  
5 season and maybe even have a chance, if it's not --  
6 a candidate to have a time with the current  
7 commissioner.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So this is OIR, okay. All  
9 right. So we've got, just to get our schedule  
10 right, we've got the Cabinet -- a Cabinet meeting  
11 on March 2 and then we've got a -- our next Cabinet  
12 meeting is not until April 26th, so --

13 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: We've got a March 29th.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a March 29th Cabinet  
15 meeting?

16 MS. OLSON: There is, Governor.

17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. March 29? Okay, so if  
18 we have a March -- so if we have a March 29 Cabinet  
19 meeting, what day is the Aides?

20 MS. OLSON: The 21st.

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: 21st, Cabinet Aides, okay.  
22 So is everybody okay with moving it up?

23 CFO ATWATER: That's about two months of --

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So if we do that, we'd have  
25 January 25th -- what did we do the other one? We

1 did the other one through March 11th. Do you think  
2 if we did that we'd have enough time? Everybody  
3 okay with that? Just do it the same timeframe?

4 CFO ATWATER: I would be, Governor.

5 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Does that allow us to  
6 hit national trade publication deadlines so that  
7 these things can run as part of the national  
8 search, or is it all online now? I mean I just  
9 want to make sure we've got the window -- the last  
10 time we kind of cut it tight on how long the  
11 application window was open. I think we need to  
12 have it open at least 30 days.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Well, it would be open  
14 January 25th through April -- or through March 11.  
15 So that's 11 plus 28, so I mean that will be -- it  
16 will be, you know, what, 50 days?

17 All right. So we're just going to do the  
18 exact -- so we'll do -- all right, so then it will  
19 be through April 11th -- I mean March 11th. So  
20 January 25th through March 11th, and then we'll do  
21 the Cabinet Aides -- then everybody will do their  
22 individual interviews, and then at the Cabinet  
23 Aides meeting on March 23rd each office will  
24 recommend and then we'll have staff -- we'll have  
25 the public interviews on March 29th.

1           Is that okay with everybody?

2           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: That's a great idea,  
3 CFO, to get this in place before season.

4           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. Commissioner, do you  
5 have anything else?

6           COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: No, I'm just thinking.  
7 I mean the timeline certainly works for me.  
8 Obviously you two get the disproportionate weight  
9 on this one, so I think that that timeline allows  
10 us to work through the process.

11          GOVERNOR SCOTT: Everybody is okay? All  
12 right.

13          CFO ATWATER: Oh, yeah, Governor, might I  
14 mention one other item? And I think it's an  
15 important point, Commissioner, and we've taken a  
16 quick glance at the publications that we would hope  
17 this would be -- and we don't think there's going  
18 to be a problem with electronically being up by the  
19 25th and we should almost have about 45 or 50 days  
20 that this should be available.

21          Governor, one of the other items you had  
22 mentioned, that it talked about the position  
23 description, and it also talked about compensation.  
24 I just want to throw this out for a discussion  
25 because it might matter in the candidate pool and

1 so I'll just share with you. I don't know there is  
2 an insurance market in the country that is as  
3 dynamic as Florida, and I can just speak to my  
4 time here and this process, that it's been medical  
5 malpractice, workers' comp, auto, property to say  
6 the least, that have all been significant reforms  
7 that are very dynamic and are all being revisited.

8 I don't know that -- I don't know who we find.  
9 We've had a leader for 13 years at 134,000, but I  
10 don't know who we find at that number, with the  
11 dynamic of the Florida market and the challenges  
12 that we face.

13 So I just -- I would at least like to throw  
14 out that for conversation. There may be different  
15 opinions on that, but if we're about to advertise  
16 it and someone around the state or this country  
17 would be exploring this, would they -- would we  
18 have a greater response to what I would believe  
19 would be a salary more commiserate with the  
20 challenges and the expectations of the role to be  
21 somewhere closer to 175 to \$200,000 a year.

22 And it's probably a conversation I wanted to  
23 have with us for a long time, so it's not in any  
24 way meant to suggest anything about the current  
25 incumbent in the position. I just believe it's

1           worth a conversation.

2           GOVERNOR SCOTT: So the -- you know, one  
3           way that -- one thing the private sector does is  
4           they will just post something and they'll have the  
5           individuals say what their salary needs are,  
6           because part of what we can decide in who we  
7           interview is if somebody walks in and says, I'm  
8           only going to come if it's a half a million  
9           dollars. You know, that's probably something we'd  
10          all pass on. And so we could find out what  
11          somebody needs, but I'm okay either way. I'm okay  
12          with a higher compensation.

13          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And Governor -- CFO,  
14          do you have the comps of what our neighboring  
15          states are paying for similar positions?

16          CFO ATWATER: Let me just see, we had --  
17          that's a really good question, and so let me just  
18          throw out some of these: Texas, 175;  
19          Maryland, 166 -- well, that's not maybe a  
20          neighbor -- Tennessee, 158; Virginia, 157;  
21          Ohio, 150.

22          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: What about Louisiana,  
23          Mississippi?

24          CFO ATWATER: Louisiana, 115.

25          GOVERNOR SCOTT: Louisiana is elected, I

1 think, isn't it? I think Louisiana is elected.

2 CFO ATWATER: Yeah.

3 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: What about South  
4 Carolina?

5 CFO ATWATER: South Carolina is 130.

6 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: What was Texas?

7 CFO ATWATER: Texas was 175, which, again, I  
8 just -- I think when someone is going to be  
9 exploring the dynamic of this type of role, I think  
10 that's far more of an accurate reflection of the  
11 talent, expectation than 134.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: I'm okay with either leaving  
13 it open and say that, you know, we're going to  
14 review the applicants and see what their needs are  
15 or say that it's -- I think your proposal was that  
16 we'd say the compensation is in the 175 to 200 but  
17 we'll decide at the time.

18 CFO ATWATER: Correct, and I think either  
19 way can work. I just would certainly anticipate  
20 that people that will be exploring this idea  
21 with themselves, with their family, their  
22 professional career, I think we might find an  
23 enriched talent pool at 175 to 200,000, if we  
24 believe that's the appropriate salary commiserate  
25 with the role.

1           GOVERNOR SCOTT: It probably makes more sense  
2 if we're going to do that to put a number in than  
3 to say a range. If we're going to do it that way,  
4 we ought to put a number in.

5           CFO ATWATER: Yes, I'm comfortable with --

6           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Or we can say: Tell us what  
7 your needs are, and then we can make a decision.

8           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Or we could cap it at  
9 200, but I'm happy with 175 if you are based on  
10 Texas.

11          CFO ATWATER: Let me just throw that out for  
12 the sake of conversation, and we may have  
13 different feelings. I just would like to then  
14 place a motion that when we go to advertise we  
15 would advertise the position to be compensated at  
16 \$175,000 annually. And, again, I have no -- if  
17 there's a different opinion on that, I'm fine with  
18 that.

19          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I agree.

20          GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Is there a  
21 second?

22          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: There's a sec -- can  
23 we vote on this since it's not an action item on  
24 this?

25          GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yes.

1           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Yeah, second.

2           COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Governor, what was your  
3 concern about advertising a pay band?

4           GOVERNOR SCOTT: I just think, you know, if --  
5 I think it's -- what I would have typically done in  
6 the private sector, I'd either put a price, the  
7 compensation or -- but if we're going to do it the  
8 other way, where you did a band, who's going to say  
9 less than 200 then?

10          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Exactly.

11          COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: It seems like you get --  
12 again, when you live and breathe this stuff, it  
13 would seem that we're going to get one of two types  
14 of people: Somebody who has got tremendous  
15 private-sector experience who is ready to answer a  
16 call to service and they're willing to accept less  
17 than they're accustomed to because they're capping  
18 off a career and want the challenge of the public  
19 sector in a state like Florida, maybe they want to  
20 move to Florida -- like everybody, thanks to the  
21 Governor's good work -- or, you know, we're going  
22 to get a younger talent that's hungry, you know,  
23 sort of what Kevin McCarty was when he began this  
24 process. I mean I don't know that we're competing  
25 with insurance executives.

1 GOVERNOR SCOTT: No.

2 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: We're either getting  
3 people who are kind of at the end or we're  
4 getting people who are promising young industry  
5 leaders. And so I guess with that in mind, I don't  
6 know if the pay band advertisement helps, but I  
7 don't know.

8 CFO ATWATER: I think the pay band concept is  
9 what we would have done in the private sector. We  
10 don't know which level of experience and level of  
11 talent we may have for the role, and we may want to  
12 bring them at the high side or bring them in at the  
13 lower side. So I'm very comfortable with that,  
14 just knowing that we have -- as each Cabinet  
15 position comes -- if any other position would come  
16 open, presently there is a salary and we've  
17 historically just been designating that salary to  
18 the world knowing that they may come in and wish to  
19 have a conversation with us at the earliest  
20 possible date on that, so I can really go either  
21 way with that.

22 I think the 175 to 200, again, if people are  
23 comfortable with that, does give a range to look at  
24 the talent when it comes and for us to place that  
25 before the applicants and that we may have a little

1 bit of flexibility based upon their experiences.

2 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Either way.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yeah, I'm comfortable.

4 CFO ATWATER: All right. Then why don't I do  
5 this, Governor, for the first one, why don't I  
6 amend the motion that we would communicate that as  
7 we're -- as we bring in the candidates and would be  
8 looking at their experiences and talents that we  
9 would -- it would be our intent to fill the  
10 position in the range between 175 to 200,000?

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: And as part of our individual  
12 interview process, we'll find that out.

13 CFO ATWATER: Yes.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So before -- with the goal  
15 that when each of us make a proposal, we would make  
16 a proposal knowing what the expectation is.

17 CFO ATWATER: Right.

18 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So we're guaranteeing a  
19 \$40,000 pay increase? If we advertise 175 to 200,  
20 we're saying we're starting off assuming that we're  
21 going to have to go 40 more to get --

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And what if we just  
23 say up to 200,000, up to, just put a cap on it?  
24 You're the experts, so I'm going to go with what  
25 you say.

1 CFO ATWATER: No, no, I --

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Because what  
3 Commissioner Putnam said, what if we find a very  
4 young talent, we're likely going to want to give  
5 them a raise, especially if they're relocating  
6 their family, but is it necessarily a \$40,000  
7 increase?

8 CFO ATWATER: I am -- again, I am so  
9 comfortable with believing that we should be  
10 looking for a talent and a talent seeking this role  
11 in the State of Florida would be compensated in the  
12 area of 175 or slightly greater; that just as when  
13 if some day we're looking for a future player at  
14 the SBA or anywhere else, to attract that kind of  
15 talent and then not settle for anyone less than the  
16 kind of talent -- Governor, I'm good either way. I  
17 can --

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So let's all -- let's think  
19 of it -- something else is going to happen -- I  
20 mean we've also got DOR. We've got DO -- see,  
21 right now OIR pays 134; DOR pays 129. If you look  
22 at -- I don't have these off the top of my head.  
23 I think most of our Cabinet is under -- it's under  
24 150.

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: They're all 150 or

1 less.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yeah, so I think they're --  
3 most of them are below 150. So I mean I think as  
4 part of this we might think about, you know, this  
5 whole process: Are we getting -- you know, are we  
6 getting the best talent when we do any other  
7 searches at the price ranges we've been paying?

8 CFO ATWATER: I think that's, again, a  
9 question that's worthy of us looking at. To  
10 establish a salary or a salary range, to advertise  
11 the job, I do believe is going to impact the  
12 marketplace's reception to the job. And we do have  
13 some unique positions that do compete directly with  
14 the private sector, with roles; and to -- the job,  
15 which I know we're all aware of, in statute  
16 requires certain historical experiences in the  
17 field. And to pull someone away, this is not  
18 someone who has been a uniquely strong  
19 administrator that can use those skill sets to move  
20 someplace else. They have to have certain skill  
21 sets in this field.

22 And I just think we deserve an extraordinary  
23 talent, once more, that -- and that may have grown  
24 up in this environment, and this would be a very  
25 significant pay increase, but I also wouldn't want

1 to deprive ourselves of some talent that would  
2 explore this idea with, I believe in the end is  
3 going to be a salary range that would be  
4 appropriate.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Let's think about it this  
6 way: What's the odds that we're going to vote to  
7 pay more than 200? Not very high, right?

8 CFO ATWATER: No. Correct.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Why don't we just do it up to  
10 200,000?

11 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Or from the current to  
12 200.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yeah, that way you're  
14 getting -- because if you get --

15 CFO ATWATER: I'm good, I'm good.

16 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: I think you're not going  
17 to -- I think that gives you the maximum  
18 flexibility.

19 CFO ATWATER: It does.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Different types of talent  
21 that you --

22 CFO ATWATER: But I think we're announce -- by  
23 this, we'd be communicating to the talent out  
24 there: I think I'll put my name in the hat;  
25 Florida is a place that I could have a chance to be

1 in the most dynamic market and be compensated to  
2 make that move.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. CFO, do you want to  
4 make a motion?

5 CFO ATWATER: I'll make the motion, Governor,  
6 that we would advertise the position at a  
7 compensation range between our current salary of,  
8 which I believe is at 134, to the 200,000, at the  
9 upper end of the salary range.

10 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Is there a  
11 second?

12 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. Any conversation? Any  
14 questions?

15 (NO RESPONSE).

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All in favor, aye.

17 (AFFIRMATIVE INDICATIONS).

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Let's talk about  
19 DOR then. Let's do the same thing.

20 Do you -- I mean did you do anything on DOR?

21 CFO ATWATER: No.

22 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. I think what we ought  
23 to do though is we ought to -- well, we've got --  
24 now we have to do a ser -- we have to put something  
25 in -- the same sort of thing on DOR. So the choice

1 is either we're going to put in -- if we don't --  
2 if we don't do anything now, we're going to put in  
3 129, if we don't change it, right? So the question  
4 is, we can either leave it at 129, or we can do  
5 something similar that we can say up to something  
6 or a higher number. Does anybody have any  
7 recommendations?

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I don't know why we  
9 wouldn't do the same if we're doing it for one,  
10 have a range, but --

11 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: The last time that  
12 position was open it was open for a year, and it  
13 was clearly --

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Exactly.

15 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: People weren't falling  
16 all over themselves to apply, and I think that  
17 that's a market signal.

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Uh-huh, agreed.

19 CFO ATWATER: Governor, then maybe just if I  
20 might, just for the conversation, I'd make a motion  
21 that the salary be advertised from the current rate  
22 to the salary of \$150,000 to be considered.

23 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: I'll second that.

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. So FDLE Commissioner  
25 Swearingen makes 150, and Terry Rhodes makes 150.

1 I mean, you know, Revenue is not an insignificant  
2 issue for us.

3 I'm fine if that's what we want to do. I'm  
4 okay. I would probably be more inclined to leave  
5 it open and do the up to 200, but I'm fine with the  
6 150 if that's what everybody wants to do.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I'm okay with up to  
8 200 depending on who our applicant is, and based on  
9 what Commissioner Putnam just said, sitting open  
10 for a year.

11 CFO ATWATER: Governor, I'd be happy to amend  
12 the motion.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: But we have a motion on the  
14 table, so if everybody is okay with that, that's  
15 fine with me, so --

16 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Commissioner.

17 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: My only comment would be  
18 I -- the unique technical nature of insurance and  
19 Florida's reputation in the insurance world for  
20 being in hurricane alley and everything else is why  
21 I would be inclined to seek a very specific set of  
22 skills and be willing to pay for it, similar to SBA  
23 and Bond --

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: That's true.

25 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: -- where it would be

1 apples to apples. I mean Revenue is an incredibly  
2 important position, but I think that there is a  
3 broader pool to select from than there is for some  
4 of these other specialty positions.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: That makes sense.

6 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I agree, and then  
7 it's comparable with our other agencies.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. All right. So the  
9 motion on the table is between 129 and 150?

10 CFO ATWATER: 150, right.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: And, Commissioner, I believe  
12 you seconded. So all in favor.

13 (AFFIRMATIVE INDICATIONS).

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Anything else on  
15 those two?

16 CFO ATWATER: No. Thank you, Governor.

17  
18  
19 \* \* \* \*

**APPOINTMENTS - PAROLE QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE**

1  
2  
3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. So now we're  
4 doing the Parole Qualifications Committee.

5 Prior to a vacancy on the Commission on  
6 Offender Review, we must appoint a five-member  
7 Parole Qualifications Committee to recommend a list  
8 of candidates. Would everybody prefer to make  
9 nominations to the Committee today and vote today?  
10 Is that all right with everybody?

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: It's fine with me.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay.

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: As long we're not --  
14 we haven't been able to discuss this, of course, so  
15 I'm not sure who --

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: I'll make a proposal and then  
17 we'll --

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Okay, okay.

19 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Why don't I make a proposal  
20 what I'd recommend, and then I think -- okay. All  
21 right. I'd like to nominate Sheriff David Shore to  
22 serve on the Committee, and I'd nominate Willie  
23 Meggs to serve as chair.

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And I would like to  
25 nominate Mark Ober, State Attorney, 13th Circuit,

1 to serve on the Committee.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right.

3 CFO ATWATER: How many positions are we  
4 filling, Governor?

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Five and one chair.

6 CFO ATWATER: I'd like -- are we just adding  
7 to the same motion, Governor?

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yeah, let's just add to the  
9 same motion.

10 CFO ATWATER: Then if I might add to your  
11 motion to serve on the Committee Sheriff Susan  
12 Benton.

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Good, good one.

14 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: I didn't bring a name  
15 today, so I will be prepared to offer a name at  
16 the next Cabinet, or I'll be prepared to circulate  
17 a name to everyone, however we want to handle that,  
18 but I did not bring a nominee to the meeting.

19 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And I have not spoken  
20 with him, but State Attorney Jerry Hill from your  
21 neck of the woods may be a good nominee, but I have  
22 not spoken --

23 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: He's a fine man, but I'm  
24 not prepared to --

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Right. No, and I

1 haven't spoken to him either so I have no idea  
2 because I didn't know who was going to be  
3 nominated.

4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. So, Commissioner, I  
5 don't think we can do it outside the meeting, all  
6 right? Okay, so why don't we do -- if this -- just  
7 make sure it's okay, so we'll do -- I'll do Sheriff  
8 David Shore and State Attorney Willie Meggs.  
9 You're going to do Mark Ober?

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Uh-huh.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. And you're going to do  
12 Sheriff Susan Benton?

13 CFO ATWATER: Correct.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: And then at the next Cabinet  
15 Aides meeting you'll have your recommendation and  
16 we'll vote on it then; is that --

17 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: I will.

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is that all right with  
19 everybody?

20 (AFFIRMATIVE INDICATIONS).

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Cabinet Aides meeting,  
22 they'll say it and then we'll vote on it at that  
23 next one.

24 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Okay.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Does that make sense?

1 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: That works.

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Then they can go  
3 ahead and get started with that.

4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yeah.

5 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Perfect

6 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. We have a motion.  
7 Is there a second?

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Any comments or  
10 objections?

11 (NO RESPONSE).

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion  
13 carries.

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**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**

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3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Next I'd like to  
4 recognize Jennifer Pritt with the Florida  
5 Department of Law Enforcement.

6 MS. PRITT: Good afternoon, Governor, Attorney  
7 General Bondi, CFO Atwater, and Commissioner  
8 Putnam.

9 I'm Jennifer Cook Pritt on behalf of  
10 Commissioner Swearingen today.

11 We only have two agenda items for you. The  
12 first is the approval of the minutes from the  
13 December 8th, 2015, Cabinet meeting.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the  
15 item?

16 CFO ATWATER: So moved.

17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

19 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

20 (NO RESPONSE).

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion  
22 carries.

23 MS. PRITT: Thank you. The second item that  
24 we have is the 2016 Florida Law Enforcement  
25 Officers' Hall of Fame nominees, and we are

1 respectfully requesting to withdraw this Item  
2 Number 2 from the agenda. Again, as you know, this  
3 is the first time that we are going through this  
4 process. We feel that we want to dot our I's and  
5 cross our T's and take one more step in the process  
6 before we bring it to the March Cabinet meeting.

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion to  
8 withdraw?

9 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So moved.

10 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

11 CFO ATWATER: Second.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

13 (NO RESPONSE).

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion  
15 carries.

16 Thank you, Jennifer.

17 MS. PRITT: Thank you.

18 This concludes the Florida Department of Law  
19 Enforcement's agenda.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks.

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND**

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2  
3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next I'd like to recognize  
4 Jon Steverson with the Department of Environmental  
5 Protection.

6 SECRETARY STEVERSON: Good afternoon,  
7 Governor, members of the Cabinet.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hi, Jon.

9 SECRETARY STEVERSON: There are two items on  
10 the Board of Trustees agenda. Item Number 1 is a  
11 request for a five-year submerged lands lease  
12 containing over 250,000 square feet from Key West  
13 Marina encompassing 63 slips which are part of an  
14 existing private yacht club facility.

15 This marina is located at Stock Island in the  
16 City of Key West and has been operated as a  
17 commercial marina since the 1960s. The facility is  
18 currently in compliance, and the Department  
19 recommends approval of a standard five-year lease  
20 term.

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the  
22 item?

23 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So moved.

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

1 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

2 (NO RESPONSE).

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion  
4 carries.

5 SECRETARY STEVERSON: Thank you, Governor,  
6 Cabinet

7 Item Number 2 is a presentation from  
8 Doctor Erin Kimmerle from the University of South  
9 Florida, the final report on the investigation  
10 into the deaths and burials at the former  
11 Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys.

12 I would like to remind the Board that this  
13 item has been presented with a recommendation for  
14 discussion of the final report and is not an  
15 actionable item and therefore does not require a  
16 vote.

17 Doctor Kimmerle.

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good afternoon.

19 DOCTOR KIMMERLE: Good afternoon, Governor and  
20 Cabinet. Thank you for having us here today.

21 We brought a few photographs and images to  
22 highlight just some of the key points of the report  
23 to share with you and wanted to ultimately hear  
24 back from you and be available for questions that  
25 you might have. So I think they have a Power Point

1           too to put up.

2                   GOVERNOR SCOTT:   Okay.

3                   DOCTOR KIMMERLE:   Just to recap, in August of  
4           2013, you gave USF permission, along with the  
5           Department of Environmental Protection, to do an  
6           exhumation of the burials that we had found through  
7           remote sensing at the burial ground at the former  
8           Dozier School.  And so over this past year and a  
9           half what we did was excavate all of those remains,  
10          work towards human identification of those remains;  
11          and then subsequently, based on what we found, we  
12          needed some additional field work and you gave us  
13          some time to do that.  So there's a lot that's been  
14          done in the last several years, and I'll try to  
15          just summarize the highlights for you.

16                   I would like to thank, you'll see in our  
17          report, so many people and agencies from around the  
18          state and even beyond that came and provided  
19          assistance.  They volunteered their time, they gave  
20          private donations, equipment, and so many  
21          resources.  And it was really through this strong  
22          collaborative effort that this was able to happen.  
23          Going back, looking at this as a historic project,  
24          something that, you know, we're looking at from  
25          more than a hundred years ago, it's really I think

1           been remarkable to see what we've been able to pull  
2           together.

3           So mainly the objectives were simply to locate  
4           those burials, identify who is there in order for  
5           them to be repatriated and returned to the families  
6           and determine whether there were additional burials  
7           outside of this marked burial ground. And in doing  
8           that, we searched extensively throughout what was  
9           once a 1,400-acre property. And through this,  
10          we've tried to be very public, share the results  
11          openly and always have this eye towards education.  
12          And so there was a lot of public outreach  
13          throughout this process and that continues.

14          One of the main, and probably for us the main  
15          question that still exists, is ultimately how and  
16          where do we rebury those that remain unidentified  
17          and those that have been presumptively identified.  
18          But what that means is that we can't link them  
19          exclusively to one family. It's not based on DNA  
20          where we can say: This is absolutely this person.  
21          But what it's based on is all of the lines of  
22          evidence that we have: Age, ancestry, the date of  
23          the burial, the circumstances and location, based  
24          on everything we know, it's our best estimate of  
25          who it is.

1           And in some of those cases we do have families  
2           and we've talked to them about what that means.  
3           And probably the course of action would be to bury  
4           them with those that are unknown. But that's the  
5           question that, you know, we look for your guidance  
6           on.

7           So this image is just showing you the overall  
8           lay of the campus, and it was at one point divided  
9           between two sections, a north and a south section  
10          called Departments 1 and 2. And I just highlight  
11          this here because most of this work, the burials we  
12          found were on the area of the Boot Hill burial  
13          ground, which is on the northern aspect of that  
14          property. And the other area of interest is where  
15          the dormitory in 1914 burned down, and that's on  
16          the opposite side of the campus in a much more  
17          developed area.

18          This is a historic image showing that north  
19          part of the campus, and what you see over in this  
20          corner is what was the dining hall. And there's a  
21          road there that led up to this burial ground, and I  
22          just point this out because today that's completely  
23          covered in kudzu and woods. And a big part of  
24          being able to find these burials when they're  
25          unmarked and answer that question are there more

1 has to do with going back and putting together how  
2 the land was used over time, because the roads that  
3 they used aren't there today. And during this  
4 hundred-year span, that land was farmed, it was  
5 mined, they used it for agriculture, they've built  
6 and rebuilt on it, and so there's a lot of history  
7 there that has to be reconstructed.

8 And it becomes important because what we did  
9 is follow all leads that we could find from  
10 witnesses, historic references, people who live in  
11 the community, families, men that were sent there  
12 as boys. We took all that information and tried to  
13 follow up on every one of those leads.

14 Having said that, we're talking about  
15 1,400 acres, and so we can't at the end of the day  
16 say that we, you know, certify there are no more  
17 burials there; but what we can say is that we've  
18 taken all of that information and been as thorough  
19 as we can in using remote sensing, cadaver dogs,  
20 human, you know, searches and then ultimately  
21 trenching and excavation.

22 In doing this, just to show you an image of  
23 how we track it, we map it, everything is  
24 geo-referenced and photographed. It becomes a lot  
25 of information to manage, and that's all part of

1 the work that we've done, and ultimately part of  
2 the library's archives so that it's available  
3 publicly and others could look at it and build on  
4 it.

5 The overall site, when we started in 2013, we  
6 did remote sensing and estimated 50 burials. We  
7 did ground truthing where we dig shallow trenches  
8 in order to try to define which are burials and  
9 which might be fence posts, buried trash, other  
10 things. That gave us a good place where to start.

11 Heavy equipment is used to remove the top  
12 layer of soil. We knew that the first 40 -- you  
13 know, 30 to 40 centimeters were safe to remove as  
14 overburden. And you can even see in the photo that  
15 dark stain really stands out from the red clay, and  
16 that's showing you that that's a burial.

17 And then once that topsoil is removed,  
18 everything is done very carefully by hand. We  
19 maintain chain of custody. Everything is  
20 photographed and documented, and so you go from  
21 heavy equipment, end with dental picks, and it's  
22 done very meticulously.

23 Just some panoramic shots for overviews. A  
24 lot of what we found for burials were outside of  
25 that marked area; they were under trees. This

1 large mulberry tree, for example, in the corner was  
2 right on top of two of the burials and that might  
3 be, in part, why we estimated 50 and ended up  
4 finding 55.

5 A lot of what's excavated in the field is done  
6 what's called in blocks so that in the lab we can  
7 more carefully go through it. In doing this, we  
8 found thousands of artifacts. All of those are  
9 cataloged and inventoried. We brought several  
10 examples here if you'd like to see them in person.

11 So among these 55 burials, seven of them were  
12 actually manufactured infant coffins or infant-size  
13 coffins; and they had been placed inside of larger  
14 outer burial containers that were more adult-size  
15 and there's white sand in between. And in all,  
16 seven of those were very significantly burned  
17 co-mingled remains that we believe came from that  
18 1914 fire, but in putting that together, we knew  
19 there was a minimum of three people represented  
20 though not completely. And estimates vary, 10 to  
21 12 people died in that fire. So we hypothesized  
22 that most likely the rest of those remains were at  
23 the burned dorm site and spent a lot of time  
24 looking and finding ultimately where that structure  
25 had been burned and ultimately buried.

1           This is the area where the crosses had been.  
2           Those were put in in the 1990s as a commemorative  
3           effort, I think following activities by PRIDE to  
4           plant pines and they inadvertently had run into  
5           some of the burials. We did find prior trenching  
6           in that area. It's an area where cadaver dogs  
7           hit or alerted, but whether at one time there  
8           had been more burials there we can't say for  
9           certain.

10           Most of the artifacts are centered around  
11           the coffins and the burials, very few personal  
12           items, mainly they come in the form of clothing.  
13           A number of boys were buried in burial -- in  
14           shrouds, so there are pins and some cloth in some  
15           cases.

16           Other things that we found throughout the site  
17           included both historic and modern garbage. One  
18           burial did have a pellet -- a lead ball that seemed  
19           consistent with a led pellet that was turned over  
20           to FDLE for analysis. And then modern-day syringes  
21           that date to about 1985 were found there.

22           This photograph is a duplicate. When the  
23           school was first built, they built two dorms  
24           identical, one burned down. The one that didn't  
25           burn down is pictured here, just to show you what

1           it looked like. There was an area between the  
2           modern-day administration building and the barber  
3           shop which had never been built on. It was sort of  
4           a fruit orchard and a garden, and this is the area  
5           where we found the debris from the burnt remains of  
6           the dormitory, and there was a lot of artificial  
7           land form built up over it.

8                        So what we did is a sampling strategy  
9           because we're talking about a space more than  
10          150 feet long, 50 feet wide, surrounded then by  
11          dirt roads -- or I'm sorry, by paved roads and  
12          buildings, electrical lines throughout this area;  
13          there are underground tunnels. So it's a challenge  
14          in terms of trying to excavate it. We sampled, we  
15          dug trenches using heavy equipment, and all of that  
16          was water-screened.

17                       We estimate that we sifted 220,000 pounds of  
18          dirt through water screening, and the trenches  
19          varied, but are roughly on average about a meter  
20          and a half deep. So all of that hilltop has been  
21          built up over time, and the tunnels and the  
22          different things that they have there came later  
23          and they just were able to build up over it, so  
24          that burned layer is quite deep.

25                       And this buried brick structure is showing you

1 the top of one of those tunnels, underground  
2 tunnels, and they go throughout the campus there.  
3 And you can even see in the -- what you're looking  
4 at with the soil and those colors is just the  
5 different layers of soil, and the bottom is the  
6 burn layer.

7 Some of the local farmers and businessmen were  
8 very kind and built these water screen stations and  
9 helped provide the water we got turned back on, and  
10 so these fire hoses controlled -- to push that much  
11 dirt through it. And the brick that you see there  
12 is just all piling up, it's burned. So we found  
13 burned brick, melted glass, lots of evidence of  
14 fire-charred artifacts, few personal things, like  
15 buttons and a small amount of human remains, most  
16 of which was very significantly burned. And these  
17 artifacts are in the report.

18 We worked with Hillsborough County Sheriff's  
19 Office, University of North Texas Health Science  
20 Center, and FDLE to try and track down families,  
21 collect DNA samples for the families to match to  
22 the remains. We have seven positive  
23 identifications that's through DNA testing, 14  
24 additional identifications that are the presumptive  
25 IDs that I mentioned, and this is something that's

1 ongoing. We have some more pending.

2 We're hopeful that we will get several more  
3 positive matches. We feel, you know, a very strong  
4 commitment to the families we've come to know  
5 through this process and have worked with, and I  
6 can tell you they're very grateful that you took  
7 this chance and allowed this to happen. In four  
8 cases we've been able to rebury, work with the  
9 families and rebury those individuals in family  
10 plots, and three others are pending, and hopefully  
11 we'll move forward with that soon.

12 This is one example of the reburial ceremony  
13 with Glenn Varnadoe. His uncle, Thomas Varnadoe,  
14 was sent there. And I know from the beginning  
15 he met with Attorney General Pam Bondi and also  
16 with Commissioner Putnam and really, you know,  
17 helped show us all why this was so important to  
18 them.

19 Those who died in the fire, we have a number  
20 of families from that incident, from 1914, but the  
21 remains are too burned that we can't get DNA  
22 samples; so unfortunately, we can't make matches  
23 for them. One of the three individuals that's  
24 represented in those Boot Hill remains is an adult,  
25 older-aged adult, and we know there were two adults

1 that died in that fire. And so we presume that  
2 that's the Evans' men that died in that fire, but  
3 unfortunately they really can't be separated out  
4 from those that are unknown; and so likely those  
5 individuals would also be buried with the unknowns  
6 in however that transpires.

7 We did search extensively for additional  
8 remains, as I said, any leads that came up,  
9 historic records, modern-day witnesses; and my  
10 colleague, Doctor Wells, can comment a little bit  
11 more on that. But I feel that we've exhaustively  
12 followed up on all of those leads and found what we  
13 are able to do.

14 And through this, both in the local Marianna  
15 community and all across the state, we've had a lot  
16 of public outreach and programs to help try to  
17 educate the public and also recognize the families.  
18 We did a day-long symposium at USF just about the  
19 fire on the 100-year anniversary of it and some of  
20 the families came. So we hope to be able to do  
21 some more events like that and help them share  
22 their stories.

23 All of the additional information,  
24 supplemental information, interviews, film, video  
25 all of this is being compiled into an archive.

1 Right now we're working with the Tampa archive.  
2 There's a lot more to be done with it, and whether  
3 it should also become part of the state archives,  
4 I don't know; but that would be a question as to,  
5 you know, how to really develop that and where to  
6 house it.

7 And I just -- out of this picture for you  
8 today, the Boot Hill area is grown over. It was  
9 always difficult to assess because it's behind a  
10 county jail and it's essentially like a paved -- or  
11 I'm sorry, unpaved dirt road up there, but today  
12 it's pretty grown over.

13 So I'll turn it over to my colleagues for a  
14 few comments and then I'm happy to answer  
15 questions.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

17 DOCTOR WELLS: Good afternoon, Governor,  
18 Attorney General, CFO, and Commissioner. My name  
19 is Doctor Christian Wells. I'm a professor of  
20 anthropology at the University of South Florida and  
21 also the director of the Center for Brownfields  
22 Research and Redevelopment.

23 As the lead archeologist in charge of  
24 prospection for human burials on the Dozier Campus,  
25 I just wanted to share with you two of our key

1 findings: The first to reiterate what Doctor  
2 Kimmerle has already stated; that in addition to  
3 the Boot Hill burial ground and the site of the  
4 burned dormitory, both of which were found to  
5 contain human remains, families of the missing boys  
6 and former inmates reported additional burial areas  
7 on the property. All leads into the locations of  
8 possible burial areas were investigated. Under two  
9 Florida DHR 1A-32 permits, we used ground  
10 penetrating radar with subsurface testing to  
11 evaluate evidence and eyewitness accounts of human  
12 interments on the campus.

13 Overall we surveyed 35 different regions with  
14 GPR totaling over four acres of land as well as  
15 approximately 30 to 40 acres in the surrounding  
16 areas. Several areas showed evidence for  
17 disturbances which we investigated using shallow  
18 trenches, excavations, cadaver dogs, and other  
19 forms of testing. No anomalies, apart from Boot  
20 Hill and the area of the burned dorm, revealed any  
21 human remains. We report this in the context that  
22 the school at its height maintained over 1,400  
23 acres of land consisting of forests, agricultural,  
24 and cattle fields and quarries; thus, there's a  
25 large amount of terrain that has not yet been

1 investigated.

2 The second key finding I wanted to point out  
3 which does not appear very central to the report  
4 because it was coincidental to our investigation  
5 is that in the course of soil testing for  
6 prospection for human burials, we discovered  
7 significant and compelling evidence that portions  
8 of the Dozier campus are contaminated with  
9 solvents, pesticides and heavy metals, including  
10 lead, arsenic and mercury, among other pollutants  
11 such as asbestos.

12 We, therefore, urge the Governor and Cabinet  
13 to work closely with the Department of  
14 Environmental Protection and the Florida  
15 Brownfields Association in considering future  
16 appropriate land use and reuse. We believe this is  
17 especially important for determining the  
18 disposition of any reburials or memorials or other  
19 activities that would impact the lives or  
20 livelihood of Marianna residents.

21 And we report this in the context that this is  
22 a coincidental finding falling outside the scope of  
23 our particular study. So this is not a Phase 1  
24 environmental site assessment, but we encourage the  
25 Governor and Cabinet to followup on this issue.

1 Thank you.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

3 DOCTOR JACKSON: Good afternoon.

4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good afternoon.

5 DOCTOR JACKSON: Governor Scott and Cabinet,  
6 thank you for supporting our research and our work.

7 My name is Antoinette Jackson. I'm a  
8 professor of anthropology at the University of  
9 South Florida, and my interest on this project has  
10 been with the living, and my question today is:  
11 Where do we go from here? What is our  
12 responsibility to the living?

13 One of the things I would like to advocate is  
14 that we recognize what we have learned from this  
15 project. We've interviewed and spent time in  
16 numerous communities. We've interviewed numerous  
17 people, and I think it's imperative that we  
18 recognize what -- first of all, recognize what we  
19 have learned.

20 One of the things that we've learned is the  
21 impact and implications of segregation. As you  
22 know, that campus was a completely segregated  
23 campus until the mid 1960s, and that resonates  
24 today in terms of the types of information that we  
25 were able to find in the historical records and how

1 it was organized or not organized and things like  
2 that. So the implications of segregation penetrate  
3 what we've been doing throughout.

4 We also should recognize the implications and  
5 the need to make visible and complicate the  
6 narrative of the throwaway child. Based on the  
7 information that we've retained from interviews,  
8 there is no such thing as just a throwaway child.  
9 The people we've interviewed have given nuance,  
10 stories, and information about children that can  
11 help inform how we go forward in our state systems  
12 today. So this story and this research has helped  
13 us see beyond the notion of a throwaway child, and  
14 I think that's one of the key findings in terms of  
15 a cultural anthropology perspective.

16 Also, we integrate the narratives of multiple  
17 stakeholder communities. As you would know, this  
18 project has not been -- has not gained support in  
19 the same manner through all communities, and so one  
20 of our tasks has been to integrate and to  
21 coordinate and to continue to have conversations  
22 with communities. Regardless of whether they agree  
23 or disagree, they all have input into how we should  
24 go forward. And so I think we continue to push  
25 forward and communicate with as many people as

1 possible and continue to incorporate them in our  
2 narratives.

3 The other thing we want to advocate and we  
4 continue to advocate is the issues of  
5 memorialization. The state has been very helpful  
6 in, again, pushing forward this project, but we  
7 want to continue to advocate for memorialization  
8 for the individual families whose loved one's  
9 remains have been found at the site, financial  
10 support, and also propose perhaps a site that can  
11 be an ongoing place of learning and education  
12 regarding what happened, the processes that created  
13 maybe the situation at the Dozier School for Boys,  
14 and to continue to educate people how to correct  
15 these kinds of situations in the future. So we  
16 advocate for issues of memorialization and  
17 continued support around that.

18 And finally, we're actively engaged  
19 continually in education, public education. Being  
20 here today is one of our initiatives in the public  
21 education. Doctor Kimmerle mentioned the fact that  
22 we are posting all of our findings, it's very  
23 transparent, on our USF Dozier public archives so  
24 the public can have access to all of the things we  
25 found. I have numerous transcripts and tapes and

1 information from the interviews we've collected,  
2 and that will all be posted online with the  
3 permissions of the people who have been spoken to,  
4 so that's a definite key resource.

5 We go around and we've presented our work at  
6 conferences, national conferences throughout the  
7 country. We've just been invited to present at  
8 the Kyoto World Archeology Conference in Japan,  
9 and so we are going to go there at the end of  
10 August and early September to talk about this  
11 work and to talk about the advocacy that the  
12 State of Florida has had in helping us move  
13 forward with this.

14 So I think it's going to be a great  
15 opportunity to tell the story, not only the lessons  
16 learned but, again, how we can go forward and  
17 continue to tell this complex and complicated  
18 story. So, again, we want to thank you for all of  
19 your support and continue to invite the members of  
20 the public and the communities with more stories  
21 and more information about this project to continue  
22 to come forward.

23 Thank you.

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Doctor Jackson.

25 We're going to take a five-minute break so we

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can change out the court reporter.

(WHEREUPON, THE REMAINDER OF THE HEARING WAS  
REPORTED BY YVONNE LAFLAMME OF C & N REPORTERS).

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CERTIFICATE

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STATE OF FLORIDA )  
COUNTY OF LEON )

I, NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, FPR, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

DATED this 1st day of February, 2016.

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NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, FPR  
Court Reporter

<b>\$</b>	<p><b>200,000</b> [5] - 12:23, 16:10, 16:23, 19:10, 20:8</p> <p><b>2013</b> [2] - 32:4, 36:5</p> <p><b>2015</b> [1] - 28:13</p> <p><b>2016</b> [3] - 1:13, 28:24, 51:7</p> <p><b>20th</b> [1] - 6:1</p> <p><b>21</b> [1] - 1:13</p> <p><b>21st</b> [3] - 3:4, 7:20, 7:21</p> <p><b>220,000</b> [1] - 39:17</p> <p><b>23</b> [2] - 5:10, 5:12</p> <p><b>23rd</b> [1] - 8:23</p> <p><b>24</b> [1] - 2:6</p> <p><b>250,000</b> [1] - 30:12</p> <p><b>25th</b> [6] - 5:8, 5:23, 7:25, 8:14, 8:20, 9:19</p> <p><b>26th</b> [2] - 6:5, 7:12</p> <p><b>28</b> [2] - 2:9, 8:15</p> <p><b>29</b> [2] - 7:17, 7:18</p> <p><b>29th</b> [4] - 5:15, 7:13, 7:14, 8:25</p>	<p>34:24, 39:23, 41:8, 42:13, 42:20, 46:25</p> <p><b>absolutely</b> [1] - 33:20</p> <p><b>accept</b> [1] - 14:16</p> <p><b>access</b> [1] - 48:24</p> <p><b>accordance</b> [1] - 4:7</p> <p><b>accounts</b> [1] - 44:11</p> <p><b>accurate</b> [1] - 12:10</p> <p><b>accustomed</b> [1] - 14:17</p> <p><b>acres</b> [4] - 35:15, 44:14, 44:15, 44:23</p> <p><b>action</b> [2] - 13:23, 34:3</p> <p><b>actionable</b> [1] - 31:15</p> <p><b>actively</b> [1] - 48:18</p> <p><b>activities</b> [2] - 38:3, 45:19</p> <p><b>ADAM</b> [1] - 1:12</p> <p><b>add</b> [2] - 25:8, 25:10</p> <p><b>adding</b> [1] - 25:6</p> <p><b>addition</b> [1] - 44:2</p> <p><b>additional</b> [6] - 32:12, 33:6, 40:24, 42:7, 42:23, 44:6</p> <p><b>administration</b> [1] - 39:2</p> <p><b>administrator</b> [1] - 18:19</p> <p><b>adult</b> [3] - 37:14, 41:24, 41:25</p> <p><b>adult-size</b> [1] - 37:14</p> <p><b>adults</b> [1] - 41:25</p> <p><b>advertise</b> [6] - 10:15, 13:14, 13:15, 16:19, 18:10, 20:6</p> <p><b>advertised</b> [2] - 4:14, 21:21</p> <p><b>advertisement</b> [1] - 15:6</p> <p><b>advertising</b> [1] - 14:3</p> <p><b>advocacy</b> [1] - 49:11</p> <p><b>advocate</b> [5] - 46:13, 48:3, 48:4, 48:7, 48:16</p> <p><b>AFFIRMATIVE</b> [4] - 5:20, 20:17, 23:13, 26:20</p> <p><b>afternoon</b> [7] - 28:6, 30:6, 31:18, 31:19, 43:17, 46:3, 46:4</p> <p><b>age</b> [1] - 33:22</p> <p><b>aged</b> [1] - 41:25</p> <p><b>agencies</b> [2] - 23:7, 32:17</p> <p><b>Agencies</b> [2] - 4:17, 5:3</p> <p><b>Agency</b> [1] - 4:19</p>	<p><b>agenda</b> [4] - 28:11, 29:2, 29:19, 30:10</p> <p><b>ago</b> [1] - 32:25</p> <p><b>agree</b> [3] - 13:19, 23:6, 47:22</p> <p><b>agreed</b> [1] - 21:18</p> <p><b>agricultural</b> [1] - 44:23</p> <p><b>AGRICULTURE</b> [1] - 1:11</p> <p><b>agriculture</b> [1] - 35:5</p> <p><b>ahead</b> [2] - 7:4, 27:3</p> <p><b>Aides</b> [12] - 5:11, 5:12, 6:1, 6:2, 6:9, 6:11, 7:19, 7:21, 8:21, 8:23, 26:15, 26:21</p> <p><b>alerted</b> [1] - 38:7</p> <p><b>allegiance</b> [1] - 3:8</p> <p><b>ALLEGIANCE</b> [1] - 3:14</p> <p><b>alley</b> [1] - 22:20</p> <p><b>allow</b> [1] - 8:5</p> <p><b>allowed</b> [1] - 41:7</p> <p><b>allows</b> [1] - 9:9</p> <p><b>almost</b> [1] - 9:19</p> <p><b>amend</b> [2] - 16:6, 22:11</p> <p><b>amount</b> [2] - 40:15, 44:25</p> <p><b>Ana</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>analysis</b> [1] - 38:20</p> <p><b>ancestry</b> [1] - 33:22</p> <p><b>AND</b> [2] - 1:4, 3:13</p> <p><b>anniversary</b> [1] - 42:19</p> <p><b>announce</b> [2] - 4:10, 19:22</p> <p><b>annually</b> [1] - 13:16</p> <p><b>anomalies</b> [1] - 44:19</p> <p><b>answer</b> [3] - 14:15, 34:25, 43:14</p> <p><b>Anthem</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>anthropology</b> [3] - 43:20, 46:8, 47:15</p> <p><b>anticipate</b> [1] - 12:19</p> <p><b>Antoinette</b> [1] - 46:7</p> <p><b>apart</b> [1] - 44:19</p> <p><b>appear</b> [1] - 45:3</p> <p><b>apples</b> [2] - 23:1</p> <p><b>applicant</b> [1] - 22:8</p> <p><b>applicants</b> [4] - 5:10, 5:25, 12:14, 15:25</p> <p><b>application</b> [2] - 4:10, 8:11</p> <p><b>applications</b> [4] - 4:14, 4:20, 5:8, 5:23</p> <p><b>apply</b> [1] - 21:16</p> <p><b>appoint</b> [1] - 24:6</p>	<p><b>appointment</b> [1] - 4:11</p> <p><b>appointments</b> [2] - 2:6, 4:4</p> <p><b>Appointments</b> [1] - 2:3</p> <p><b>APPOINTMENTS</b> [2] - 4:1, 24:1</p> <p><b>appropriate</b> [3] - 12:24, 19:4, 45:16</p> <p><b>approval</b> [2] - 28:12, 30:19</p> <p><b>April</b> [8] - 5:7, 5:24, 5:25, 6:1, 6:5, 7:12, 8:14, 8:19</p> <p><b>archeologist</b> [1] - 43:23</p> <p><b>Archeology</b> [1] - 49:8</p> <p><b>archive</b> [2] - 42:25, 43:1</p> <p><b>archives</b> [3] - 36:2, 43:3, 48:23</p> <p><b>area</b> [13] - 17:12, 34:12, 34:14, 34:17, 36:25, 38:1, 38:6, 39:1, 39:4, 39:12, 43:8, 44:20</p> <p><b>areas</b> [4] - 44:6, 44:8, 44:16</p> <p><b>arsenic</b> [1] - 45:10</p> <p><b>Arthur</b> [1] - 31:11</p> <p><b>artifacts</b> [4] - 37:8, 38:10, 40:14, 40:17</p> <p><b>artificial</b> [1] - 39:6</p> <p><b>asbestos</b> [1] - 45:11</p> <p><b>aspect</b> [1] - 34:13</p> <p><b>assess</b> [1] - 43:9</p> <p><b>assessment</b> [1] - 45:24</p> <p><b>assistance</b> [1] - 32:19</p> <p><b>Association</b> [1] - 45:15</p> <p><b>assuming</b> [1] - 16:20</p> <p><b>Attorney</b> [6] - 24:25, 25:20, 26:8, 28:6, 41:15, 43:18</p> <p><b>ATTORNEY</b> [38] - 1:10, 4:25, 5:17, 6:7, 9:2, 11:13, 11:22, 12:3, 12:6, 13:8, 13:19, 13:22, 14:1, 14:10, 16:22, 17:2, 17:25, 20:12, 21:8, 21:14, 21:18, 22:7, 22:16, 22:24, 23:6, 24:11, 24:13, 24:18, 24:24, 25:13, 25:19, 25:25, 26:10, 27:2,</p>						
<b>1</b>	<p>1 [5] - 1:7, 5:7, 30:10, 34:10, 45:23</p> <p><b>1,400</b> [2] - 35:15, 44:22</p> <p><b>1,400-acre</b> [1] - 33:9</p> <p><b>10</b> [1] - 37:20</p> <p><b>100-year</b> [1] - 42:19</p> <p><b>11</b> [2] - 8:14, 8:15</p> <p><b>115</b> [1] - 11:24</p> <p><b>11th</b> [5] - 5:9, 8:1, 8:19, 8:20</p> <p><b>12</b> [1] - 37:21</p> <p><b>129</b> [4] - 17:21, 21:3, 21:4, 23:9</p> <p><b>13</b> [1] - 10:9</p> <p><b>130</b> [1] - 12:5</p> <p><b>134</b> [3] - 12:11, 17:21, 20:8</p> <p><b>134,000</b> [1] - 10:9</p> <p><b>13th</b> [1] - 24:25</p> <p><b>14</b> [1] - 40:23</p> <p><b>150</b> [10] - 11:21, 17:24, 17:25, 18:3, 21:25, 22:6, 23:9, 23:10, 39:10</p> <p><b>157</b> [1] - 11:20</p> <p><b>158</b> [1] - 11:20</p> <p><b>166</b> [1] - 11:19</p> <p><b>175</b> [10] - 10:21, 11:18, 12:7, 12:16, 12:23, 13:9, 15:22, 16:10, 16:19, 17:12</p> <p><b>1914</b> [3] - 34:15, 37:18, 41:20</p> <p><b>1960s</b> [2] - 30:17, 46:23</p> <p><b>1985</b> [1] - 38:21</p> <p><b>1990s</b> [1] - 38:2</p> <p><b>1A-32</b> [1] - 44:9</p> <p><b>1st</b> [1] - 51:7</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>30</b> [4] - 2:11, 8:12, 36:13, 44:15</p> <p><b>3093</b> [1] - 1:23</p> <p><b>32315-3093</b> [1] - 1:23</p> <p><b>35</b> [1] - 44:13</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>4</b> [1] - 2:4</p> <p><b>40</b> [4] - 16:21, 36:12, 36:13, 44:15</p> <p><b>45</b> [1] - 9:19</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>50</b> [5] - 8:16, 9:19, 36:6, 37:3, 39:10</p> <p><b>55</b> [2] - 37:4, 37:11</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>63</b> [1] - 30:13</p> <p><b>697-8314</b> [1] - 1:24</p> <p><b>697-8715</b> [1] - 1:24</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>850</b> [2] - 1:24</p> <p><b>8th</b> [2] - 5:24, 28:13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A</b></p> <p><b>able</b> [10] - 6:18, 24:14, 32:22, 33:1,</p>	<p>34:24, 39:23, 41:8, 42:13, 42:20, 46:25</p>	<p><b>agencia</b> [4] - 28:11, 29:2, 29:19, 30:10</p> <p><b>ago</b> [1] - 32:25</p> <p><b>agree</b> [3] - 13:19, 23:6, 47:22</p> <p><b>agreed</b> [1] - 21:18</p> <p><b>agricultural</b> [1] - 44:23</p> <p><b>AGRICULTURE</b> [1] - 1:11</p> <p><b>agriculture</b> [1] - 35:5</p> <p><b>ahead</b> [2] - 7:4, 27:3</p> <p><b>Aides</b> [12] - 5:11, 5:12, 6:1, 6:2, 6:9, 6:11, 7:19, 7:21, 8:21, 8:23, 26:15, 26:21</p> <p><b>alerted</b> [1] - 38:7</p> <p><b>allegiance</b> [1] - 3:8</p> <p><b>ALLEGIANCE</b> [1] - 3:14</p> <p><b>alley</b> [1] - 22:20</p> <p><b>allow</b> [1] - 8:5</p> <p><b>allowed</b> [1] - 41:7</p> <p><b>allows</b> [1] - 9:9</p> <p><b>almost</b> [1] - 9:19</p> <p><b>amend</b> [2] - 16:6, 22:11</p> <p><b>amount</b> [2] - 40:15, 44:25</p> <p><b>Ana</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>analysis</b> [1] - 38:20</p> <p><b>ancestry</b> [1] - 33:22</p> <p><b>AND</b> [2] - 1:4, 3:13</p> <p><b>anniversary</b> [1] - 42:19</p> <p><b>announce</b> [2] - 4:10, 19:22</p> <p><b>annually</b> [1] - 13:16</p> <p><b>anomalies</b> [1] - 44:19</p> <p><b>answer</b> [3] - 14:15, 34:25, 43:14</p> <p><b>Anthem</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>anthropology</b> [3] - 43:20, 46:8, 47:15</p> <p><b>anticipate</b> [1] - 12:19</p> <p><b>Antoinette</b> [1] - 46:7</p> <p><b>apart</b> [1] - 44:19</p> <p><b>appear</b> [1] - 45:3</p> <p><b>apples</b> [2] - 23:1</p> <p><b>applicant</b> [1] - 22:8</p> <p><b>applicants</b> [4] - 5:10, 5:25, 12:14, 15:25</p> <p><b>application</b> [2] - 4:10, 8:11</p> <p><b>applications</b> [4] - 4:14, 4:20, 5:8, 5:23</p> <p><b>apply</b> [1] - 21:16</p> <p><b>appoint</b> [1] - 24:6</p>	<p><b>appointment</b> [1] - 4:11</p> <p><b>appointments</b> [2] - 2:6, 4:4</p> <p><b>Appointments</b> [1] - 2:3</p> <p><b>APPOINTMENTS</b> [2] - 4:1, 24:1</p> <p><b>appropriate</b> [3] - 12:24, 19:4, 45:16</p> <p><b>approval</b> [2] - 28:12, 30:19</p> <p><b>April</b> [8] - 5:7, 5:24, 5:25, 6:1, 6:5, 7:12, 8:14, 8:19</p> <p><b>archeologist</b> [1] - 43:23</p> <p><b>Archeology</b> [1] - 49:8</p> <p><b>archive</b> [2] - 42:25, 43:1</p> <p><b>archives</b> [3] - 36:2, 43:3, 48:23</p> <p><b>area</b> [13] - 17:12, 34:12, 34:14, 34:17, 36:25, 38:1, 38:6, 39:1, 39:4, 39:12, 43:8, 44:20</p> <p><b>areas</b> [4] - 44:6, 44:8, 44:16</p> <p><b>arsenic</b> [1] - 45:10</p> <p><b>Arthur</b> [1] - 31:11</p> <p><b>artifacts</b> [4] - 37:8, 38:10, 40:14, 40:17</p> <p><b>artificial</b> [1] - 39:6</p> <p><b>asbestos</b> [1] - 45:11</p> <p><b>aspect</b> [1] - 34:13</p> <p><b>assess</b> [1] - 43:9</p> <p><b>assessment</b> [1] - 45:24</p> <p><b>assistance</b> [1] - 32:19</p> <p><b>Association</b> [1] - 45:15</p> <p><b>assuming</b> [1] - 16:20</p> <p><b>Attorney</b> [6] - 24:25, 25:20, 26:8, 28:6, 41:15, 43:18</p> <p><b>ATTORNEY</b> [38] - 1:10, 4:25, 5:17, 6:7, 9:2, 11:13, 11:22, 12:3, 12:6, 13:8, 13:19, 13:22, 14:1, 14:10, 16:22, 17:2, 17:25, 20:12, 21:8, 21:14, 21:18, 22:7, 22:16, 22:24, 23:6, 24:11, 24:13, 24:18, 24:24, 25:13, 25:19, 25:25, 26:10, 27:2,</p>
<b>2</b>	<p>2 [5] - 5:22, 7:11, 29:2, 31:7, 34:10</p> <p><b>20</b> [1] - 5:25</p> <p><b>200</b> [9] - 12:16, 13:9, 14:9, 15:22, 16:19, 19:7, 19:12, 22:5, 22:8</p>	<p><b>200,000</b> [5] - 12:23, 16:10, 16:23, 19:10, 20:8</p> <p><b>2013</b> [2] - 32:4, 36:5</p> <p><b>2015</b> [1] - 28:13</p> <p><b>2016</b> [3] - 1:13, 28:24, 51:7</p> <p><b>20th</b> [1] - 6:1</p> <p><b>21</b> [1] - 1:13</p> <p><b>21st</b> [3] - 3:4, 7:20, 7:21</p> <p><b>220,000</b> [1] - 39:17</p> <p><b>23</b> [2] - 5:10, 5:12</p> <p><b>23rd</b> [1] - 8:23</p> <p><b>24</b> [1] - 2:6</p> <p><b>250,000</b> [1] - 30:12</p> <p><b>25th</b> [6] - 5:8, 5:23, 7:25, 8:14, 8:20, 9:19</p> <p><b>26th</b> [2] - 6:5, 7:12</p> <p><b>28</b> [2] - 2:9, 8:15</p> <p><b>29</b> [2] - 7:17, 7:18</p> <p><b>29th</b> [4] - 5:15, 7:13, 7:14, 8:25</p>	<p>34:24, 39:23, 41:8, 42:13, 42:20, 46:25</p> <p><b>absolutely</b> [1] - 33:20</p> <p><b>accept</b> [1] - 14:16</p> <p><b>access</b> [1] - 48:24</p> <p><b>accordance</b> [1] - 4:7</p> <p><b>accounts</b> [1] - 44:11</p> <p><b>accurate</b> [1] - 12:10</p> <p><b>accustomed</b> [1] - 14:17</p> <p><b>acres</b> [4] - 35:15, 44:14, 44:15, 44:23</p> <p><b>action</b> [2] - 13:23, 34:3</p> <p><b>actionable</b> [1] - 31:15</p> <p><b>actively</b> [1] - 48:18</p> <p><b>activities</b> [2] - 38:3, 45:19</p> <p><b>ADAM</b> [1] - 1:12</p> <p><b>add</b> [2] - 25:8, 25:10</p> <p><b>adding</b> [1] - 25:6</p> <p><b>addition</b> [1] - 44:2</p> <p><b>additional</b> [6] - 32:12, 33:6, 40:24, 42:7, 42:23, 44:6</p> <p><b>administration</b> [1] - 39:2</p> <p><b>administrator</b> [1] - 18:19</p> <p><b>adult</b> [3] - 37:14, 41:24, 41:25</p> <p><b>adult-size</b> [1] - 37:14</p> <p><b>adults</b> [1] - 41:25</p> <p><b>advertise</b> [6] - 10:15, 13:14, 13:15, 16:19, 18:10, 20:6</p> <p><b>advertised</b> [2] - 4:14, 21:21</p> <p><b>advertisement</b> [1] - 15:6</p> <p><b>advertising</b> [1] - 14:3</p> <p><b>advocacy</b> [1] - 49:11</p> <p><b>advocate</b> [5] - 46:13, 48:3, 48:4, 48:7, 48:16</p> <p><b>AFFIRMATIVE</b> [4] - 5:20, 20:17, 23:13, 26:20</p> <p><b>afternoon</b> [7] - 28:6, 30:6, 31:18, 31:19, 43:17, 46:3, 46:4</p> <p><b>age</b> [1] - 33:22</p> <p><b>aged</b> [1] - 41:25</p> <p><b>agencies</b> [2] - 23:7, 32:17</p> <p><b>Agencies</b> [2] - 4:17, 5:3</p> <p><b>Agency</b> [1] - 4:19</p>	<p><b>agenda</b> [4] - 28:11, 29:2, 29:19, 30:10</p> <p><b>ago</b> [1] - 32:25</p> <p><b>agree</b> [3] - 13:19, 23:6, 47:22</p> <p><b>agreed</b> [1] - 21:18</p> <p><b>agricultural</b> [1] - 44:23</p> <p><b>AGRICULTURE</b> [1] - 1:11</p> <p><b>agriculture</b> [1] - 35:5</p> <p><b>ahead</b> [2] - 7:4, 27:3</p> <p><b>Aides</b> [12] - 5:11, 5:12, 6:1, 6:2, 6:9, 6:11, 7:19, 7:21, 8:21, 8:23, 26:15, 26:21</p> <p><b>alerted</b> [1] - 38:7</p> <p><b>allegiance</b> [1] - 3:8</p> <p><b>ALLEGIANCE</b> [1] - 3:14</p> <p><b>alley</b> [1] - 22:20</p> <p><b>allow</b> [1] - 8:5</p> <p><b>allowed</b> [1] - 41:7</p> <p><b>allows</b> [1] - 9:9</p> <p><b>almost</b> [1] - 9:19</p> <p><b>amend</b> [2] - 16:6, 22:11</p> <p><b>amount</b> [2] - 40:15, 44:25</p> <p><b>Ana</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>analysis</b> [1] - 38:20</p> <p><b>ancestry</b> [1] - 33:22</p> <p><b>AND</b> [2] - 1:4, 3:13</p> <p><b>anniversary</b> [1] - 42:19</p> <p><b>announce</b> [2] - 4:10, 19:22</p> <p><b>annually</b> [1] - 13:16</p> <p><b>anomalies</b> [1] - 44:19</p> <p><b>answer</b> [3] - 14:15, 34:25, 43:14</p> <p><b>Anthem</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>anthropology</b> [3] - 43:20, 46:8, 47:15</p> <p><b>anticipate</b> [1] - 12:19</p> <p><b>Antoinette</b> [1] - 46:7</p> <p><b>apart</b> [1] - 44:19</p> <p><b>appear</b> [1] - 45:3</p> <p><b>apples</b> [2] - 23:1</p> <p><b>applicant</b> [1] - 22:8</p> <p><b>applicants</b> [4] - 5:10, 5:25, 12:14, 15:25</p> <p><b>application</b> [2] - 4:10, 8:11</p> <p><b>applications</b> [4] - 4:14, 4:20, 5:8, 5:23</p> <p><b>apply</b> [1] - 21:16</p> <p><b>appoint</b> [1] - 24:6</p>	<p><b>appointment</b> [1] - 4:11</p> <p><b>appointments</b> [2] - 2:6, 4:4</p> <p><b>Appointments</b> [1] - 2:3</p> <p><b>APPOINTMENTS</b> [2] - 4:1, 24:1</p> <p><b>appropriate</b> [3] - 12:24, 19:4, 45:16</p> <p><b>approval</b> [2] - 28:12, 30:19</p> <p><b>April</b> [8] - 5:7, 5:24, 5:25, 6:1, 6:5, 7:12, 8:14, 8:19</p> <p><b>archeologist</b> [1] - 43:23</p> <p><b>Archeology</b> [1] - 49:8</p> <p><b>archive</b> [2] - 42:25, 43:1</p> <p><b>archives</b> [3] - 36:2, 43:3, 48:23</p> <p><b>area</b> [13] - 17:12, 34:12, 34:14, 34:17, 36:25, 38:1, 38:6, 39:1, 39:4, 39:12, 43:8, 44:20</p> <p><b>areas</b> [4] - 44:6, 44:8, 44:16</p> <p><b>arsenic</b> [1] - 45:10</p> <p><b>Arthur</b> [1] - 31:11</p> <p><b>artifacts</b> [4] - 37:8, 38:10, 40:14, 40:17</p> <p><b>artificial</b> [1] - 39:6</p> <p><b>asbestos</b> [1] - 45:11</p> <p><b>aspect</b> [1] - 34:13</p> <p><b>assess</b> [1] - 43:9</p> <p><b>assessment</b> [1] - 45:24</p> <p><b>assistance</b> [1] - 32:19</p> <p><b>Association</b> [1] - 45:15</p> <p><b>assuming</b> [1] - 16:20</p> <p><b>Attorney</b> [6] - 24:25, 25:20, 26:8, 28:6, 41:15, 43:18</p> <p><b>ATTORNEY</b> [38] - 1:10, 4:25, 5:17, 6:7, 9:2, 11:13, 11:22, 12:3, 12:6, 13:8, 13:19, 13:22, 14:1, 14:10, 16:22, 17:2, 17:25, 20:12, 21:8, 21:14, 21:18, 22:7, 22:16, 22:24, 23:6, 24:11, 24:13, 24:18, 24:24, 25:13, 25:19, 25:25, 26:10, 27:2,</p>					

<p>27:5, 27:8, 28:18, 30:25  <b>attract</b> [1] - 17:14  <b>ATWATER</b> [39] - 1:11, 6:15, 6:17, 6:23, 6:25, 7:23, 8:4, 9:13, 11:16, 11:24, 12:2, 12:5, 12:7, 12:18, 13:5, 13:11, 15:8, 16:4, 16:13, 16:17, 17:1, 17:8, 18:8, 19:8, 19:15, 19:19, 19:22, 20:5, 20:21, 21:19, 22:11, 23:10, 23:16, 25:3, 25:6, 25:10, 26:13, 28:16, 29:11  <b>Atwater</b> [1] - 28:7  <b>August</b> [2] - 32:3, 49:10  <b>authorized</b> [1] - 51:5  <b>auto</b> [1] - 10:5  <b>available</b> [3] - 9:20, 31:24, 36:2  <b>average</b> [1] - 39:19  <b>avoid</b> [1] - 5:3  <b>aware</b> [1] - 18:15  <b>aye</b> [1] - 20:16</p>	<p><b>BOARD</b> [1] - 30:1  <b>Bond</b> [1] - 22:23  <b>Bondi</b> [2] - 28:7, 41:15  <b>BONDI</b> [38] - 1:10, 4:25, 5:17, 6:7, 9:2, 11:13, 11:22, 12:3, 12:6, 13:8, 13:19, 13:22, 14:1, 14:10, 16:22, 17:2, 17:25, 20:12, 21:8, 21:14, 21:18, 22:7, 22:16, 22:24, 23:6, 24:11, 24:13, 24:18, 24:24, 25:13, 25:19, 25:25, 26:10, 27:2, 27:5, 27:8, 28:18, 30:25  <b>Boot</b> [5] - 34:12, 41:24, 43:8, 44:3, 44:19  <b>bottom</b> [1] - 40:5  <b>BOX</b> [1] - 1:23  <b>Boys</b> [2] - 31:11, 48:13  <b>boys</b> [3] - 35:12, 38:13, 44:5  <b>break</b> [1] - 49:25  <b>breathe</b> [1] - 14:12  <b>brick</b> [3] - 39:25, 40:11, 40:13  <b>bring</b> [6] - 15:12, 16:7, 25:14, 25:18, 29:6  <b>broader</b> [1] - 23:3  <b>brought</b> [2] - 31:21, 37:9  <b>Brownfields</b> [2] - 43:21, 45:15  <b>build</b> [2] - 36:3, 39:23  <b>building</b> [1] - 39:2  <b>buildings</b> [1] - 39:12  <b>built</b> [7] - 35:5, 38:23, 39:3, 39:7, 39:21, 40:8  <b>burial</b> [12] - 32:7, 33:7, 33:23, 34:12, 34:21, 36:16, 37:14, 38:13, 38:18, 44:3, 44:6, 44:8  <b>burials</b> [17] - 31:10, 32:6, 33:4, 33:6, 34:11, 34:24, 35:17, 36:6, 36:8, 36:24, 37:2, 37:11, 38:5, 38:8, 38:11, 43:24, 45:6  <b>buried</b> [5] - 36:9, 37:25, 38:13, 39:25, 42:5</p>	<p><b>burn</b> [2] - 38:25, 40:6  <b>burned</b> [12] - 34:15, 37:16, 37:23, 37:25, 38:24, 39:24, 40:12, 40:13, 40:16, 41:21, 44:4, 44:20  <b>burnt</b> [1] - 39:5  <b>bury</b> [1] - 34:3  <b>businessmen</b> [1] - 40:7  <b>buttons</b> [1] - 40:15  <b>BY</b> [2] - 1:17, 50:3</p>	<p><b>centimeters</b> [1] - 36:13  <b>central</b> [1] - 45:3  <b>ceremony</b> [1] - 41:12  <b>Cerio</b> [1] - 3:6  <b>certain</b> [3] - 18:16, 18:20, 38:9  <b>certainly</b> [2] - 9:7, 12:19  <b>CERTIFICATE</b> [1] - 51:1  <b>certify</b> [2] - 35:16, 51:5  <b>CFO</b> [43] - 6:15, 6:17, 6:23, 6:25, 7:23, 8:4, 9:3, 9:13, 11:13, 11:16, 11:24, 12:2, 12:5, 12:7, 12:18, 13:5, 13:11, 15:8, 16:4, 16:13, 16:17, 17:1, 17:8, 18:8, 19:8, 19:15, 19:19, 19:22, 20:3, 20:5, 20:21, 21:19, 22:11, 23:10, 23:16, 25:3, 25:6, 25:10, 26:13, 28:7, 28:16, 29:11, 43:18  <b>chain</b> [1] - 36:19  <b>chair</b> [2] - 24:23, 25:5  <b>challenge</b> [2] - 14:18, 39:13  <b>challenges</b> [2] - 10:11, 10:20  <b>chance</b> [3] - 7:5, 19:25, 41:7  <b>change</b> [2] - 21:3, 50:1  <b>charge</b> [1] - 43:23  <b>charred</b> [1] - 40:14  <b>CHIEF</b> [1] - 1:10  <b>child</b> [3] - 47:6, 47:8, 47:13  <b>children</b> [1] - 47:10  <b>choice</b> [1] - 20:25  <b>Christian</b> [1] - 43:19  <b>Circuit</b> [1] - 24:25  <b>circulate</b> [1] - 25:16  <b>circumstances</b> [1] - 33:23  <b>City</b> [1] - 30:16  <b>class</b> [1] - 3:9  <b>clay</b> [1] - 36:15  <b>clearly</b> [1] - 21:13  <b>closely</b> [1] - 45:13  <b>closer</b> [1] - 10:21  <b>cloth</b> [1] - 38:14  <b>clothing</b> [1] - 38:12  <b>Cloud's</b> [1] - 3:8  <b>club</b> [1] - 30:14</p>	<p><b>co</b> [1] - 37:17  <b>co-mingled</b> [1] - 37:17  <b>coffins</b> [3] - 37:12, 37:13, 38:11  <b>coincidental</b> [2] - 45:4, 45:22  <b>collaborative</b> [1] - 32:22  <b>colleague</b> [1] - 42:10  <b>colleagues</b> [1] - 43:13  <b>collect</b> [1] - 40:21  <b>collected</b> [1] - 49:1  <b>colors</b> [1] - 40:4  <b>comfortable</b> [5] - 13:5, 15:13, 15:23, 16:3, 17:9  <b>coming</b> [1] - 6:21  <b>commemorative</b> [1] - 38:2  <b>comment</b> [2] - 22:17, 42:10  <b>comments</b> [5] - 27:9, 28:19, 29:12, 31:1, 43:14  <b>commercial</b> [1] - 30:17  <b>commiserate</b> [2] - 10:19, 12:24  <b>Commission</b> [1] - 24:5  <b>COMMISSIONER</b> [24] - 1:11, 6:8, 7:13, 8:5, 9:6, 14:2, 14:11, 15:2, 16:2, 16:18, 19:11, 19:16, 21:11, 21:15, 21:23, 22:17, 22:25, 25:14, 25:23, 26:17, 26:24, 27:1, 29:9, 30:23  <b>Commissioner</b> [14] - 2:4, 4:5, 5:22, 9:15, 17:3, 21:24, 22:9, 22:16, 23:11, 26:4, 28:7, 28:10, 41:16, 43:18  <b>commissioner</b> [2] - 7:7, 9:4  <b>commitment</b> [1] - 41:4  <b>committee</b> [1] - 4:11  <b>COMMITTEE</b> [1] - 24:1  <b>Committee</b> [7] - 2:6, 24:4, 24:7, 24:9, 24:22, 25:1, 25:11  <b>communicate</b> [2] - 16:6, 47:25  <b>communicating</b> [1] -</p>
<b>B</b>		<b>C</b>		
<p><b>ball</b> [1] - 38:18  <b>band</b> [4] - 14:3, 14:8, 15:6, 15:8  <b>barber</b> [1] - 39:2  <b>based</b> [8] - 13:9, 16:1, 22:8, 32:11, 33:19, 33:21, 33:23, 47:6  <b>become</b> [1] - 43:3  <b>becomes</b> [2] - 35:8, 35:24  <b>began</b> [1] - 14:23  <b>begin</b> [1] - 3:5  <b>beginning</b> [1] - 41:14  <b>behalf</b> [1] - 28:9  <b>behind</b> [1] - 43:9  <b>below</b> [1] - 18:3  <b>Benton</b> [2] - 25:12, 26:12  <b>best</b> [2] - 18:6, 33:24  <b>between</b> [6] - 16:10, 20:7, 23:9, 34:9, 37:15, 39:1  <b>beyond</b> [2] - 32:18, 47:13  <b>big</b> [1] - 34:23  <b>bit</b> [2] - 16:1, 42:10  <b>blocks</b> [1] - 37:6  <b>Board</b> [3] - 2:10, 30:10, 31:12</p>		<p><b>Cabinet</b> [35] - 3:4, 4:7, 4:17, 4:21, 5:11, 5:12, 5:15, 6:1, 6:2, 6:5, 6:9, 6:11, 6:14, 7:10, 7:11, 7:14, 7:18, 7:21, 8:21, 8:22, 15:14, 17:23, 25:16, 26:14, 26:21, 28:13, 29:6, 30:7, 31:6, 31:20, 45:12, 45:25, 46:5  <b>CABINET</b> [3] - 1:4, 1:9, 1:15  <b>cadaver</b> [3] - 35:19, 38:6, 44:18  <b>calendar</b> [1] - 5:4  <b>Campus</b> [1] - 43:24  <b>campus</b> [8] - 34:8, 34:16, 34:19, 40:2, 44:12, 45:8, 46:22, 46:23  <b>candidate</b> [3] - 4:12, 7:6, 9:25  <b>candidates</b> [4] - 5:13, 6:3, 16:7, 24:8  <b>candnreporters.</b>  <b>com</b> [1] - 1:25  <b>cap</b> [2] - 13:8, 16:23  <b>CAPITOL</b> [1] - 1:15  <b>capping</b> [1] - 14:17  <b>career</b> [2] - 12:22, 14:18  <b>carefully</b> [2] - 36:18, 37:7  <b>Carolina</b> [2] - 12:4, 12:5  <b>carries</b> [4] - 27:13, 28:22, 29:15, 31:4  <b>cases</b> [3] - 34:1, 38:15, 41:8  <b>cataloged</b> [1] - 37:9  <b>cattle</b> [1] - 44:24  <b>Center</b> [2] - 40:20, 43:21  <b>centered</b> [1] - 38:10</p>		

<p>19:23  <b>communities</b> [5] - 46:16, 47:17, 47:19, 47:22, 49:20  <b>community</b> [2] - 35:11, 42:15  <b>comp</b> [1] - 10:5  <b>comparable</b> [1] - 23:7  <b>compelling</b> [1] - 45:7  <b>compensated</b> [3] - 13:15, 17:11, 20:1  <b>compensation</b> [6] - 4:10, 9:23, 11:12, 12:16, 14:7, 20:7  <b>compete</b> [1] - 18:13  <b>competing</b> [1] - 14:24  <b>compiled</b> [1] - 42:25  <b>complete</b> [1] - 51:6  <b>completely</b> [3] - 34:22, 37:20, 46:22  <b>complex</b> [1] - 49:17  <b>compliance</b> [1] - 30:18  <b>complicate</b> [1] - 47:5  <b>complicated</b> [1] - 49:17  <b>comps</b> [1] - 11:14  <b>concept</b> [1] - 15:8  <b>concern</b> [1] - 14:3  <b>concludes</b> [1] - 29:18  <b>conduct</b> [1] - 4:16  <b>conducted</b> [1] - 6:9  <b>Conference</b> [1] - 49:8  <b>conferences</b> [2] - 49:6  <b>consider</b> [1] - 5:5  <b>considered</b> [1] - 21:22  <b>considering</b> [1] - 45:15  <b>consistent</b> [1] - 38:19  <b>consisting</b> [1] - 44:23  <b>contain</b> [1] - 44:5  <b>containers</b> [1] - 37:14  <b>containing</b> [1] - 30:12  <b>contaminated</b> [1] - 45:8  <b>context</b> [2] - 44:21, 45:21  <b>continually</b> [1] - 48:19  <b>continue</b> [9] - 47:21,</p>	<p>47:24, 48:1, 48:4, 48:7, 48:14, 49:17, 49:19, 49:21  <b>continued</b> [1] - 48:17  <b>continues</b> [1] - 33:13  <b>controlled</b> [1] - 40:10  <b>conversation</b> [7] - 10:14, 10:22, 11:1, 13:12, 15:19, 20:13, 21:20  <b>conversations</b> [1] - 47:21  <b>Cook</b> [1] - 28:9  <b>coordinate</b> [1] - 47:21  <b>corner</b> [2] - 34:20, 37:1  <b>correct</b> [4] - 12:18, 19:8, 26:13, 48:14  <b>country</b> [3] - 10:2, 10:16, 49:7  <b>county</b> [1] - 43:10  <b>COUNTY</b> [1] - 51:3  <b>County</b> [1] - 40:18  <b>course</b> [3] - 24:14, 34:3, 45:5  <b>COURT</b> [1] - 1:18  <b>court</b> [1] - 50:1  <b>Court</b> [1] - 51:11  <b>covered</b> [1] - 34:23  <b>created</b> [1] - 48:12  <b>cross</b> [1] - 29:5  <b>crosses</b> [1] - 38:1  <b>cultural</b> [1] - 47:15  <b>curious</b> [1] - 6:18  <b>current</b> [6] - 4:18, 7:6, 10:24, 19:11, 20:7, 21:21  <b>custody</b> [1] - 36:19  <b>cut</b> [1] - 8:10</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>D</b></p> <p><b>dark</b> [1] - 36:15  <b>DATE</b> [1] - 1:13  <b>date</b> [4] - 4:16, 15:20, 33:22, 38:21  <b>DATED</b> [1] - 51:7  <b>dates</b> [2] - 5:5, 6:6  <b>David</b> [2] - 24:21, 26:8  <b>day-long</b> [1] - 42:18  <b>days</b> [3] - 8:12, 8:16, 9:19  <b>deadlines</b> [1] - 8:6  <b>deaths</b> [1] - 31:10  <b>debris</b> [1] - 39:5  <b>December</b> [1] - 28:13</p>	<p><b>decide</b> [2] - 11:6, 12:17  <b>decision</b> [1] - 13:7  <b>deep</b> [2] - 39:20, 39:24  <b>define</b> [1] - 36:8  <b>definite</b> [1] - 49:4  <b>dental</b> [1] - 36:21  <b>DEPARTMENT</b> [1] - 28:1  <b>Department</b> [9] - 2:3, 2:8, 4:5, 28:5, 29:18, 30:4, 30:18, 32:5, 45:13  <b>Departments</b> [1] - 34:10  <b>deprive</b> [1] - 19:1  <b>description</b> [2] - 4:18, 9:23  <b>descriptions</b> [1] - 4:9  <b>deserve</b> [1] - 18:22  <b>designating</b> [1] - 15:17  <b>determine</b> [1] - 33:6  <b>determining</b> [1] - 45:17  <b>develop</b> [1] - 43:5  <b>developed</b> [1] - 34:17  <b>DHR</b> [1] - 44:9  <b>died</b> [4] - 37:21, 41:19, 42:1, 42:2  <b>different</b> [7] - 10:14, 13:13, 13:17, 19:20, 39:22, 40:5, 44:13  <b>difficult</b> [1] - 43:9  <b>dig</b> [1] - 36:7  <b>dining</b> [1] - 34:20  <b>directly</b> [1] - 18:13  <b>director</b> [1] - 43:21  <b>Director</b> [3] - 2:4, 4:4, 5:6  <b>dirt</b> [4] - 39:11, 39:18, 40:11, 43:11  <b>disagree</b> [1] - 47:23  <b>discovered</b> [1] - 45:6  <b>discuss</b> [1] - 24:14  <b>discussion</b> [4] - 2:3, 4:3, 9:24, 31:14  <b>DISCUSSION</b> [1] - 4:1  <b>disposition</b> [1] - 45:18  <b>disproportionate</b> [1] - 9:8  <b>disturbances</b> [1] - 44:17  <b>divided</b> [1] - 34:8  <b>DNA</b> [4] - 33:19,</p>	<p>40:21, 40:23, 41:21  <b>DO</b> [1] - 17:20  <b>Doctor</b> [7] - 31:8, 31:17, 42:10, 43:19, 44:1, 48:21, 49:24  <b>DOCTOR</b> [5] - 31:19, 32:3, 43:17, 46:3, 46:5  <b>documented</b> [1] - 36:20  <b>dogs</b> [3] - 35:19, 38:6, 44:18  <b>dollars</b> [1] - 11:9  <b>donations</b> [1] - 32:20  <b>done</b> [8] - 14:5, 15:9, 32:14, 36:1, 36:18, 36:22, 37:5, 43:2  <b>DOR</b> [6] - 5:6, 17:20, 17:21, 20:19, 20:20, 20:25  <b>dorm</b> [2] - 37:23, 44:20  <b>dormitory</b> [3] - 34:15, 39:6, 44:4  <b>dorms</b> [1] - 38:23  <b>dot</b> [1] - 29:4  <b>down</b> [4] - 34:15, 38:24, 38:25, 40:20  <b>Dozier</b> [6] - 31:11, 32:8, 43:24, 45:8, 48:13, 48:23  <b>dug</b> [1] - 39:15  <b>duplicate</b> [1] - 38:22  <b>during</b> [5] - 4:16, 5:2, 5:11, 6:1, 35:3  <b>dynamic</b> [5] - 10:3, 10:7, 10:11, 12:9, 20:1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>E</b></p> <p><b>earliest</b> [1] - 15:19  <b>early</b> [1] - 49:10  <b>educate</b> [2] - 42:17, 48:14  <b>education</b> [5] - 33:11, 48:11, 48:19, 48:21  <b>effective</b> [2] - 5:7, 5:22  <b>effort</b> [2] - 32:22, 38:3  <b>either</b> [1] - 11:11, 12:12, 12:18, 14:6, 15:2, 15:20, 16:2, 17:16, 21:1, 21:4, 26:1  <b>elected</b> [2] - 11:25, 12:1  <b>electrical</b> [1] - 39:12</p>	<p><b>electronically</b> [1] - 9:18  <b>Elizabeth</b> [1] - 3:11  <b>encompassing</b> [1] - 30:13  <b>encourage</b> [1] - 45:24  <b>end</b> [6] - 15:3, 19:2, 20:9, 35:15, 36:21, 49:9  <b>ended</b> [1] - 37:3  <b>ENFORCEMENT</b> [1] - 28:1  <b>Enforcement</b> [3] - 2:8, 28:5, 28:24  <b>Enforcement's</b> [1] - 29:19  <b>engaged</b> [1] - 48:18  <b>enriched</b> [1] - 12:23  <b>environment</b> [1] - 18:24  <b>Environmental</b> [3] - 30:4, 32:5, 45:14  <b>environmental</b> [1] - 45:24  <b>equipment</b> [4] - 32:20, 36:11, 36:21, 39:15  <b>Erin</b> [1] - 31:8  <b>especially</b> [2] - 17:5, 45:17  <b>essentially</b> [1] - 43:10  <b>establish</b> [1] - 18:10  <b>estimate</b> [2] - 33:24, 39:17  <b>estimated</b> [2] - 36:6, 37:3  <b>estimates</b> [1] - 37:20  <b>evaluate</b> [1] - 44:11  <b>Evans'</b> [1] - 42:2  <b>events</b> [1] - 42:21  <b>evidence</b> [5] - 33:22, 40:13, 44:11, 44:16, 45:7  <b>exact</b> [1] - 8:18  <b>exactly</b> [2] - 14:10, 21:14  <b>example</b> [2] - 37:1, 41:12  <b>examples</b> [1] - 37:10  <b>excavate</b> [2] - 32:9, 39:14  <b>excavated</b> [1] - 37:5  <b>excavation</b> [1] - 35:21  <b>excavations</b> [1] - 44:18  <b>exclusively</b> [1] - 33:19</p>
---	---	---	---	---

<p><b>Executive</b> [3] - 2:3, 4:4, 5:6</p> <p><b>executives</b> [1] - 14:25</p> <p><b>exhaustively</b> [1] - 42:11</p> <p><b>exhumation</b> [1] - 32:6</p> <p><b>existing</b> [1] - 30:14</p> <p><b>exists</b> [1] - 33:15</p> <p><b>expectation</b> [2] - 12:11, 16:16</p> <p><b>expectations</b> [1] - 10:20</p> <p><b>experience</b> [2] - 14:15, 15:10</p> <p><b>experiences</b> [3] - 16:1, 16:8, 18:16</p> <p><b>experts</b> [1] - 16:24</p> <p><b>explore</b> [1] - 19:2</p> <p><b>exploring</b> [3] - 10:17, 12:9, 12:20</p> <p><b>extensively</b> [2] - 33:8, 42:7</p> <p><b>extraordinary</b> [1] - 18:22</p> <p><b>eye</b> [1] - 33:11</p> <p><b>eyewitness</b> [1] - 44:11</p>	<p>38:11, 40:14, 43:14</p> <p><b>field</b> [4] - 18:17, 18:21, 32:12, 37:5</p> <p><b>fields</b> [1] - 44:24</p> <p><b>fill</b> [1] - 16:9</p> <p><b>filling</b> [1] - 25:4</p> <p><b>film</b> [1] - 42:24</p> <p><b>final</b> [2] - 31:9, 31:14</p> <p><b>finally</b> [1] - 48:18</p> <p><b>FINANCIAL</b> [1] - 1:10</p> <p><b>financial</b> [1] - 48:9</p> <p><b>findings</b> [3] - 44:1, 47:14, 48:22</p> <p><b>fine</b> [6] - 13:17, 22:3, 22:5, 22:15, 24:11, 25:23</p> <p><b>fire</b> [8] - 37:18, 37:21, 40:10, 40:14, 41:19, 42:1, 42:2, 42:19</p> <p><b>fire-charred</b> [1] - 40:14</p> <p><b>First</b> [1] - 4:19</p> <p><b>first</b> [9] - 3:8, 4:23, 16:5, 28:12, 29:3, 36:12, 38:23, 44:1, 46:18</p> <p><b>five</b> [5] - 24:6, 25:5, 30:11, 30:19, 49:25</p> <p><b>five-member</b> [1] - 24:6</p> <p><b>five-minute</b> [1] - 49:25</p> <p><b>five-year</b> [2] - 30:11, 30:19</p> <p><b>flexibility</b> [2] - 16:1, 19:18</p> <p><b>FLORIDA</b> [5] - 1:1, 1:16, 1:23, 28:1, 51:3</p> <p><b>Florida</b> [17] - 2:8, 3:9, 10:3, 10:11, 14:19, 14:20, 17:11, 19:25, 28:4, 28:24, 29:18, 31:9, 43:20, 44:9, 45:14, 46:9, 49:12</p> <p><b>Florida's</b> [1] - 22:19</p> <p><b>follow</b> [2] - 35:9, 35:13</p> <p><b>followed</b> [2] - 3:10, 42:12</p> <p><b>following</b> [1] - 38:3</p> <p><b>followup</b> [1] - 45:25</p> <p><b>foregoing</b> [1] - 51:6</p> <p><b>forests</b> [1] - 44:23</p> <p><b>form</b> [3] - 4:11, 38:12, 39:7</p> <p><b>former</b> [3] - 31:10, 32:7, 44:6</p> <p><b>forms</b> [1] - 44:19</p>	<p><b>forward</b> [8] - 41:11, 47:11, 47:24, 47:25, 48:6, 49:13, 49:16, 49:22</p> <p><b>four</b> [2] - 41:7, 44:14</p> <p><b>FPR</b> [3] - 1:17, 51:5, 51:11</p> <p><b>fruit</b> [1] - 39:4</p> <p><b>FUND</b> [1] - 30:1</p> <p><b>Fund</b> [1] - 2:11</p> <p><b>future</b> [3] - 17:13, 45:15, 48:15</p>	<p>23:14, 24:3, 24:12, 24:16, 24:19, 25:2, 25:5, 25:8, 26:4, 26:11, 26:14, 26:18, 26:21, 26:25, 27:4, 27:6, 27:9, 27:12, 28:3, 28:14, 28:17, 28:19, 28:21, 29:7, 29:10, 29:12, 29:14, 29:20, 30:3, 30:8, 30:21, 30:24, 31:1, 31:3, 31:18, 32:2, 43:16, 46:2, 46:4, 49:24</p> <p><b>Governor</b> [25] - 4:25, 5:17, 6:7, 6:15, 7:16, 8:4, 9:13, 9:21, 11:13, 14:2, 16:5, 17:16, 20:5, 21:19, 22:11, 23:16, 25:4, 25:7, 28:6, 30:7, 31:5, 31:19, 43:17, 45:12, 45:25</p> <p><b>Governor's</b> [1] - 14:21</p> <p><b>GPR</b> [1] - 44:14</p> <p><b>Grace</b> [2] - 3:6, 3:12</p> <p><b>grade</b> [1] - 3:9</p> <p><b>grateful</b> [1] - 41:6</p> <p><b>great</b> [2] - 9:2, 49:14</p> <p><b>greater</b> [2] - 10:18, 17:12</p> <p><b>ground</b> [8] - 7:4, 32:7, 33:7, 34:13, 34:21, 36:7, 44:3, 44:9</p> <p><b>grown</b> [3] - 18:23, 43:8, 43:12</p> <p><b>guaranteeing</b> [1] - 16:18</p> <p><b>guess</b> [1] - 15:5</p> <p><b>guidance</b> [1] - 34:5</p> <p><b>Guidelines</b> [1] - 4:8</p>	<p>28:21, 31:3</p> <p><b>Hearing</b> [1] - 29:14</p> <p><b>heavy</b> [4] - 36:11, 36:21, 39:15, 45:9</p> <p><b>height</b> [1] - 44:22</p> <p><b>help</b> [3] - 42:16, 42:21, 47:11</p> <p><b>helped</b> [3] - 40:9, 41:17, 47:12</p> <p><b>helpful</b> [1] - 48:5</p> <p><b>helping</b> [1] - 49:12</p> <p><b>helps</b> [1] - 15:6</p> <p><b>Hi</b> [1] - 30:8</p> <p><b>high</b> [2] - 15:12, 19:7</p> <p><b>higher</b> [2] - 11:12, 21:6</p> <p><b>highlight</b> [2] - 31:22, 34:10</p> <p><b>highlights</b> [1] - 32:15</p> <p><b>Hill</b> [6] - 25:20, 34:12, 41:24, 43:8, 44:3, 44:20</p> <p><b>Hillsborough</b> [1] - 40:18</p> <p><b>hilltop</b> [1] - 39:20</p> <p><b>historic</b> [5] - 32:23, 34:18, 35:10, 38:17, 42:9</p> <p><b>historical</b> [2] - 18:16, 46:25</p> <p><b>historically</b> [1] - 15:17</p> <p><b>history</b> [1] - 35:6</p> <p><b>hit</b> [2] - 8:6, 38:7</p> <p><b>hope</b> [3] - 7:3, 9:16, 42:20</p> <p><b>hopeful</b> [1] - 41:2</p> <p><b>hopefully</b> [1] - 41:10</p> <p><b>hoses</b> [1] - 40:10</p> <p><b>house</b> [1] - 43:6</p> <p><b>human</b> [8] - 32:10, 35:20, 40:15, 43:24, 44:5, 44:11, 44:21, 45:6</p> <p><b>hundred</b> [2] - 32:25, 35:4</p> <p><b>hundred-year</b> [1] - 35:4</p> <p><b>hungry</b> [1] - 14:22</p> <p><b>hurricane</b> [2] - 7:4, 22:20</p> <p><b>hypothesized</b> [1] - 37:21</p>
<b>F</b>		<b>G</b>		
<p><b>face</b> [1] - 10:12</p> <p><b>facility</b> [2] - 30:14, 30:17</p> <p><b>fact</b> [1] - 48:21</p> <p><b>falling</b> [2] - 21:15, 45:22</p> <p><b>Fame</b> [1] - 28:25</p> <p><b>families</b> [12] - 33:5, 34:1, 35:11, 40:20, 40:21, 41:4, 41:9, 41:20, 42:17, 42:20, 44:5, 48:8</p> <p><b>family</b> [4] - 12:21, 17:6, 33:19, 41:9</p> <p><b>far</b> [1] - 12:10</p> <p><b>farmed</b> [1] - 35:4</p> <p><b>farmers</b> [1] - 40:7</p> <p><b>favor</b> [2] - 20:16, 23:12</p> <p><b>FAX</b> [1] - 1:24</p> <p><b>FDLE</b> [3] - 21:24, 38:20, 40:20</p> <p><b>February</b> [1] - 51:7</p> <p><b>feelings</b> [1] - 13:13</p> <p><b>feet</b> [3] - 30:12, 39:10</p> <p><b>fence</b> [1] - 36:9</p> <p><b>few</b> [4] - 31:21,</p>		<p><b>gained</b> [1] - 47:18</p> <p><b>garbage</b> [1] - 38:17</p> <p><b>garden</b> [1] - 39:4</p> <p><b>GENERAL</b> [38] - 1:10, 4:25, 5:17, 6:7, 9:2, 11:13, 11:22, 12:3, 12:6, 13:8, 13:19, 13:22, 14:1, 14:10, 16:22, 17:2, 17:25, 20:12, 21:8, 21:14, 21:18, 22:7, 22:16, 22:24, 23:6, 24:11, 24:13, 24:18, 24:24, 25:13, 25:19, 25:25, 26:10, 27:2, 27:5, 27:8, 28:18, 30:25</p> <p><b>General</b> [3] - 28:7, 41:15, 43:18</p> <p><b>geo</b> [1] - 35:24</p> <p><b>geo-referenced</b> [1] - 35:24</p> <p><b>GIVEN</b> [1] - 3:13</p> <p><b>given</b> [1] - 47:9</p> <p><b>glance</b> [1] - 9:16</p> <p><b>glass</b> [1] - 40:13</p> <p><b>Glenn</b> [1] - 41:13</p> <p><b>goal</b> [1] - 16:14</p> <p><b>Governance</b> [1] - 4:7</p> <p><b>governor</b> [1] - 46:5</p> <p><b>GOVERNOR</b> [88] - 1:4, 1:9, 3:3, 4:3, 5:1, 5:18, 5:21, 6:10, 6:16, 6:22, 6:24, 7:8, 7:14, 7:17, 7:21, 7:24, 8:13, 9:4, 9:11, 11:2, 11:25, 12:12, 13:1, 13:6, 13:20, 13:25, 14:4, 15:1, 16:3, 16:11, 16:14, 17:18, 18:2, 19:5, 19:9, 19:13, 19:20, 20:3, 20:10, 20:13, 20:16, 20:18, 20:22, 21:24, 22:13, 23:5, 23:8, 23:11,</p>		
<b>F</b>			<b>H</b>	
			<p><b>half</b> [3] - 11:8, 32:9, 39:20</p> <p><b>Hall</b> [1] - 28:25</p> <p><b>hall</b> [1] - 34:20</p> <p><b>hand</b> [1] - 36:18</p> <p><b>handle</b> [1] - 25:17</p> <p><b>happy</b> [3] - 13:9, 22:11, 43:14</p> <p><b>hat</b> [1] - 19:24</p> <p><b>head</b> [1] - 17:22</p> <p><b>Health</b> [1] - 40:19</p> <p><b>hear</b> [1] - 31:23</p> <p><b>HEARING</b> [1] - 50:2</p> <p><b>hearing</b> [3] - 27:12,</p>	
<b>F</b>			<b>H</b>	
				<b>I</b>
				<p><b>I's</b> [1] - 29:4</p> <p><b>idea</b> [4] - 9:2, 12:20, 19:2, 26:1</p> <p><b>identical</b> [1] - 38:24</p>

<p><b>identification</b> [1] - 32:10</p> <p><b>identifications</b> [2] - 40:23, 40:24</p> <p><b>identified</b> [1] - 33:17</p> <p><b>identify</b> [1] - 33:4</p> <p><b>IDs</b> [1] - 40:25</p> <p><b>image</b> [3] - 34:7, 34:18, 35:22</p> <p><b>images</b> [1] - 31:21</p> <p><b>impact</b> [3] - 18:11, 45:19, 46:21</p> <p><b>imperative</b> [1] - 46:17</p> <p><b>implications</b> [3] - 46:21, 47:2, 47:4</p> <p><b>important</b> [5] - 9:15, 23:2, 35:8, 41:17, 45:17</p> <p><b>IMPROVEMENT</b> [1] - 30:1</p> <p><b>improvement</b> [1] - 2:11</p> <p><b>IN</b> [1] - 1:4</p> <p><b>inadvertently</b> [1] - 38:4</p> <p><b>incident</b> [1] - 41:20</p> <p><b>inclined</b> [2] - 22:4, 22:21</p> <p><b>included</b> [1] - 38:17</p> <p><b>including</b> [1] - 45:9</p> <p><b>incorporate</b> [1] - 48:1</p> <p><b>increase</b> [3] - 16:19, 17:7, 18:25</p> <p><b>incredibly</b> [1] - 23:1</p> <p><b>incumbent</b> [1] - 10:25</p> <p><b>INDEX</b> [1] - 2:1</p> <p><b>INDICATIONS</b> [4] - 5:20, 20:17, 23:13, 26:20</p> <p><b>individual</b> [4] - 6:20, 8:22, 16:11, 48:8</p> <p><b>individually</b> [1] - 5:9</p> <p><b>individuals</b> [6] - 5:14, 6:4, 11:5, 41:9, 41:23, 42:5</p> <p><b>industry</b> [2] - 4:15, 15:4</p> <p><b>infant</b> [2] - 37:12</p> <p><b>infant-size</b> [1] - 37:12</p> <p><b>inform</b> [1] - 47:11</p> <p><b>information</b> [10] - 35:12, 35:18, 35:25, 42:23, 42:24, 46:24, 47:7, 47:10, 49:1, 49:21</p> <p><b>initiate</b> [1] - 4:12</p>	<p><b>initiatives</b> [1] - 48:20</p> <p><b>inmates</b> [1] - 44:6</p> <p><b>input</b> [1] - 47:23</p> <p><b>inside</b> [1] - 37:13</p> <p><b>insignificant</b> [1] - 22:1</p> <p><b>Insurance</b> [2] - 2:4, 4:6</p> <p><b>insurance</b> [4] - 10:2, 14:25, 22:18, 22:19</p> <p><b>integrate</b> [2] - 47:16, 47:20</p> <p><b>intent</b> [1] - 16:9</p> <p><b>interest</b> [2] - 34:14, 46:9</p> <p><b>interested</b> [1] - 7:2</p> <p><b>interments</b> [1] - 44:12</p> <p><b>Internal</b> [1] - 2:10</p> <p><b>INTERNAL</b> [1] - 30:1</p> <p><b>interview</b> [5] - 5:9, 5:24, 6:20, 11:7, 16:12</p> <p><b>interviewed</b> [3] - 46:15, 46:16, 47:9</p> <p><b>interviews</b> [10] - 4:16, 5:14, 6:4, 6:8, 6:14, 8:22, 8:25, 42:24, 47:7, 49:1</p> <p><b>inventoried</b> [1] - 37:9</p> <p><b>investigated</b> [3] - 44:8, 44:17, 45:1</p> <p><b>investigation</b> [2] - 31:9, 45:4</p> <p><b>invite</b> [1] - 49:19</p> <p><b>invited</b> [1] - 49:7</p> <p><b>invocation</b> [2] - 3:6, 3:7</p> <p><b>INVOCATION</b> [1] - 3:13</p> <p><b>Island</b> [1] - 30:15</p> <p><b>issue</b> [2] - 22:2, 45:25</p> <p><b>issues</b> [2] - 48:4, 48:16</p> <p><b>item</b> [8] - 9:14, 13:23, 28:15, 28:23, 30:10, 30:22, 31:13, 31:15</p> <p><b>Item</b> [2] - 29:1, 31:7</p> <p><b>items</b> [4] - 9:21, 28:11, 30:9, 38:12</p>	<p><b>jail</b> [1] - 43:10</p> <p><b>JANUARY</b> [1] - 1:13</p> <p><b>January</b> [6] - 3:4, 5:8, 5:23, 7:25, 8:14, 8:20</p> <p><b>Japan</b> [1] - 49:8</p> <p><b>JEFF</b> [1] - 1:10</p> <p><b>Jennifer</b> [3] - 28:4, 28:9, 29:16</p> <p><b>Jerry</b> [1] - 25:20</p> <p><b>job</b> [3] - 18:11, 18:12, 18:14</p> <p><b>Jon</b> [2] - 30:4, 30:8</p>	<p>35:13, 42:8, 42:12, 44:7</p> <p><b>learned</b> [4] - 46:14, 46:19, 46:20, 49:16</p> <p><b>learning</b> [1] - 48:11</p> <p><b>lease</b> [2] - 30:11, 30:19</p> <p><b>least</b> [3] - 8:12, 10:6, 10:13</p> <p><b>leave</b> [2] - 21:4, 22:4</p> <p><b>leaving</b> [1] - 12:12</p> <p><b>led</b> [3] - 3:8, 34:21, 38:19</p> <p><b>LEON</b> [1] - 51:3</p> <p><b>less</b> [4] - 14:9, 14:16, 17:15, 18:1</p> <p><b>lessons</b> [1] - 49:15</p> <p><b>LEVEL</b> [1] - 1:15</p> <p><b>level</b> [2] - 15:10</p> <p><b>library's</b> [1] - 36:2</p> <p><b>likely</b> [3] - 17:4, 37:22, 42:4</p> <p><b>lines</b> [2] - 33:21, 39:12</p> <p><b>link</b> [1] - 33:18</p> <p><b>list</b> [1] - 24:7</p> <p><b>live</b> [2] - 14:12, 35:10</p> <p><b>livelihood</b> [1] - 45:20</p> <p><b>lives</b> [1] - 45:19</p> <p><b>living</b> [2] - 46:10, 46:12</p> <p><b>local</b> [2] - 40:7, 42:14</p> <p><b>locate</b> [1] - 33:3</p> <p><b>located</b> [1] - 30:15</p> <p><b>LOCATION</b> [1] - 1:15</p> <p><b>location</b> [1] - 33:23</p> <p><b>locations</b> [1] - 44:7</p> <p><b>look</b> [4] - 15:23, 17:21, 34:5, 36:3</p> <p><b>looked</b> [1] - 39:1</p> <p><b>looking</b> [8] - 16:8, 17:10, 17:13, 18:9, 32:23, 32:24, 37:24, 40:3</p> <p><b>Louisiana</b> [4] - 11:22, 11:24, 11:25, 12:1</p> <p><b>loved</b> [1] - 48:8</p> <p><b>lower</b> [1] - 15:13</p> <p><b>LOWER</b> [1] - 1:15</p>	<p><b>manage</b> [1] - 35:25</p> <p><b>manner</b> [1] - 47:19</p> <p><b>manufactured</b> [1] - 37:12</p> <p><b>map</b> [1] - 35:23</p> <p><b>March</b> [17] - 5:9, 5:10, 5:12, 5:15, 7:11, 7:13, 7:14, 7:17, 7:18, 8:1, 8:14, 8:19, 8:20, 8:23, 8:25, 29:6</p> <p><b>Marianna</b> [2] - 42:14, 45:20</p> <p><b>Marina</b> [1] - 30:13</p> <p><b>marina</b> [2] - 30:15, 30:17</p> <p><b>Mark</b> [2] - 24:25, 26:9</p> <p><b>marked</b> [2] - 33:7, 36:25</p> <p><b>market</b> [4] - 10:2, 10:11, 20:1, 21:17</p> <p><b>marketplace's</b> [1] - 18:12</p> <p><b>Maryland</b> [1] - 11:19</p> <p><b>match</b> [1] - 40:21</p> <p><b>matches</b> [2] - 41:3, 41:22</p> <p><b>matter</b> [1] - 9:25</p> <p><b>maximum</b> [1] - 19:17</p> <p><b>McCarty</b> [1] - 14:23</p> <p><b>mean</b> [10] - 8:8, 8:15, 8:19, 9:7, 14:24, 17:20, 18:3, 20:20, 22:1, 23:1</p> <p><b>means</b> [2] - 33:18, 34:2</p> <p><b>meant</b> [1] - 10:24</p> <p><b>medical</b> [1] - 10:4</p> <p><b>MEETING</b> [2] - 1:4, 1:15</p> <p><b>meeting</b> [24] - 3:4, 3:5, 4:17, 5:2, 5:11, 5:12, 5:15, 6:1, 6:2, 6:5, 6:12, 6:14, 7:10, 7:12, 7:15, 7:19, 8:23, 25:18, 26:5, 26:15, 26:21, 28:13, 29:6</p> <p><b>Meggs</b> [2] - 24:23, 26:8</p> <p><b>melted</b> [1] - 40:13</p> <p><b>member</b> [1] - 24:6</p> <p><b>members</b> [2] - 30:7, 49:19</p>
<b>K</b>		<p><b>Kevin</b> [1] - 14:23</p> <p><b>key</b> [5] - 31:22, 43:25, 45:2, 47:14, 49:4</p> <p><b>Key</b> [2] - 30:12, 30:16</p> <p><b>Kimmerle</b> [4] - 31:8, 31:17, 44:2, 48:21</p> <p><b>KIMMERLE</b> [2] - 31:19, 32:3</p> <p><b>kind</b> [5] - 8:10, 15:3, 17:14, 17:16, 40:8</p> <p><b>kinds</b> [1] - 48:15</p> <p><b>knowing</b> [3] - 15:14, 15:18, 16:16</p> <p><b>kudzu</b> [1] - 34:23</p> <p><b>Kyoto</b> [1] - 49:8</p>	<p><b>less</b> [4] - 14:9, 14:16, 17:15, 18:1</p> <p><b>lessons</b> [1] - 49:15</p> <p><b>LEVEL</b> [1] - 1:15</p> <p><b>level</b> [2] - 15:10</p> <p><b>library's</b> [1] - 36:2</p> <p><b>likely</b> [3] - 17:4, 37:22, 42:4</p> <p><b>lines</b> [2] - 33:21, 39:12</p> <p><b>link</b> [1] - 33:18</p> <p><b>list</b> [1] - 24:7</p> <p><b>live</b> [2] - 14:12, 35:10</p> <p><b>livelihood</b> [1] - 45:20</p> <p><b>lives</b> [1] - 45:19</p> <p><b>living</b> [2] - 46:10, 46:12</p> <p><b>local</b> [2] - 40:7, 42:14</p> <p><b>locate</b> [1] - 33:3</p> <p><b>located</b> [1] - 30:15</p> <p><b>LOCATION</b> [1] - 1:15</p> <p><b>location</b> [1] - 33:23</p> <p><b>locations</b> [1] - 44:7</p> <p><b>look</b> [4] - 15:23, 17:21, 34:5, 36:3</p> <p><b>looked</b> [1] - 39:1</p> <p><b>looking</b> [8] - 16:8, 17:10, 17:13, 18:9, 32:23, 32:24, 37:24, 40:3</p> <p><b>Louisiana</b> [4] - 11:22, 11:24, 11:25, 12:1</p> <p><b>loved</b> [1] - 48:8</p> <p><b>lower</b> [1] - 15:13</p> <p><b>LOWER</b> [1] - 1:15</p>	<p><b>marked</b> [2] - 33:7, 36:25</p> <p><b>market</b> [4] - 10:2, 10:11, 20:1, 21:17</p> <p><b>marketplace's</b> [1] - 18:12</p> <p><b>Maryland</b> [1] - 11:19</p> <p><b>match</b> [1] - 40:21</p> <p><b>matches</b> [2] - 41:3, 41:22</p> <p><b>matter</b> [1] - 9:25</p> <p><b>maximum</b> [1] - 19:17</p> <p><b>McCarty</b> [1] - 14:23</p> <p><b>mean</b> [10] - 8:8, 8:15, 8:19, 9:7, 14:24, 17:20, 18:3, 20:20, 22:1, 23:1</p> <p><b>means</b> [2] - 33:18, 34:2</p> <p><b>meant</b> [1] - 10:24</p> <p><b>medical</b> [1] - 10:4</p> <p><b>MEETING</b> [2] - 1:4, 1:15</p> <p><b>meeting</b> [24] - 3:4, 3:5, 4:17, 5:2, 5:11, 5:12, 5:15, 6:1, 6:2, 6:5, 6:12, 6:14, 7:10, 7:12, 7:15, 7:19, 8:23, 25:18, 26:5, 26:15, 26:21, 28:13, 29:6</p> <p><b>Meggs</b> [2] - 24:23, 26:8</p> <p><b>melted</b> [1] - 40:13</p> <p><b>member</b> [1] - 24:6</p> <p><b>members</b> [2] - 30:7, 49:19</p>
<b>L</b>		<p><b>lab</b> [1] - 37:6</p> <p><b>LAFLAMME</b> [1] - 50:3</p> <p><b>land</b> [6] - 35:2, 35:4, 39:7, 44:14, 44:23, 45:16</p> <p><b>lands</b> [1] - 30:11</p> <p><b>large</b> [2] - 37:1, 44:25</p> <p><b>larger</b> [1] - 37:13</p> <p><b>last</b> [4] - 4:13, 8:9, 21:11, 32:14</p> <p><b>Law</b> [4] - 2:8, 28:5, 28:24, 29:18</p> <p><b>LAW</b> [1] - 28:1</p> <p><b>lay</b> [1] - 34:8</p> <p><b>layer</b> [3] - 36:12, 39:24, 40:6</p> <p><b>layers</b> [1] - 40:5</p> <p><b>lead</b> [4] - 3:6, 38:18, 43:23, 45:10</p> <p><b>leader</b> [1] - 10:9</p> <p><b>leaders</b> [1] - 15:5</p> <p><b>leads</b> [5] - 35:9,</p>	<p><b>lab</b> [1] - 37:6</p> <p><b>LAFLAMME</b> [1] - 50:3</p> <p><b>land</b> [6] - 35:2, 35:4, 39:7, 44:14, 44:23, 45:16</p> <p><b>lands</b> [1] - 30:11</p> <p><b>large</b> [2] - 37:1, 44:25</p> <p><b>larger</b> [1] - 37:13</p> <p><b>last</b> [4] - 4:13, 8:9, 21:11, 32:14</p> <p><b>Law</b> [4] - 2:8, 28:5, 28:24, 29:18</p> <p><b>LAW</b> [1] - 28:1</p> <p><b>lay</b> [1] - 34:8</p> <p><b>layer</b> [3] - 36:12, 39:24, 40:6</p> <p><b>layers</b> [1] - 40:5</p> <p><b>lead</b> [4] - 3:6, 38:18, 43:23, 45:10</p> <p><b>leader</b> [1] - 10:9</p> <p><b>leaders</b> [1] - 15:5</p> <p><b>leads</b> [5] - 35:9,</p>	<p><b>local</b> [2] - 40:7, 42:14</p> <p><b>locate</b> [1] - 33:3</p> <p><b>located</b> [1] - 30:15</p> <p><b>LOCATION</b> [1] - 1:15</p> <p><b>location</b> [1] - 33:23</p> <p><b>locations</b> [1] - 44:7</p> <p><b>look</b> [4] - 15:23, 17:21, 34:5, 36:3</p> <p><b>looked</b> [1] - 39:1</p> <p><b>looking</b> [8] - 16:8, 17:10, 17:13, 18:9, 32:23, 32:24, 37:24, 40:3</p> <p><b>Louisiana</b> [4] - 11:22, 11:24, 11:25, 12:1</p> <p><b>loved</b> [1] - 48:8</p> <p><b>lower</b> [1] - 15:13</p> <p><b>LOWER</b> [1] - 1:15</p>
<b>J</b>		<p><b>JACKSON</b> [2] - 46:3, 46:5</p> <p><b>Jackson</b> [2] - 46:7, 49:24</p>	<b>M</b>	<p><b>main</b> [2] - 33:14</p> <p><b>maintain</b> [1] - 36:19</p> <p><b>maintained</b> [1] - 44:22</p> <p><b>malpractice</b> [1] - 10:5</p> <p><b>man</b> [1] - 25:23</p> <p><b>manage</b> [1] - 35:25</p> <p><b>manner</b> [1] - 47:19</p> <p><b>manufactured</b> [1] - 37:12</p> <p><b>map</b> [1] - 35:23</p> <p><b>March</b> [17] - 5:9, 5:10, 5:12, 5:15, 7:11, 7:13, 7:14, 7:17, 7:18, 8:1, 8:14, 8:19, 8:20, 8:23, 8:25, 29:6</p> <p><b>Marianna</b> [2] - 42:14, 45:20</p> <p><b>Marina</b> [1] - 30:13</p> <p><b>marina</b> [2] - 30:15, 30:17</p> <p><b>Mark</b> [2] - 24:25, 26:9</p> <p><b>marked</b> [2] - 33:7, 36:25</p> <p><b>market</b> [4] - 10:2, 10:11, 20:1, 21:17</p> <p><b>marketplace's</b> [1] - 18:12</p> <p><b>Maryland</b> [1] - 11:19</p> <p><b>match</b> [1] - 40:21</p> <p><b>matches</b> [2] - 41:3, 41:22</p> <p><b>matter</b> [1] - 9:25</p> <p><b>maximum</b> [1] - 19:17</p> <p><b>McCarty</b> [1] - 14:23</p> <p><b>mean</b> [10] - 8:8, 8:15, 8:19, 9:7, 14:24, 17:20, 18:3, 20:20, 22:1, 23:1</p> <p><b>means</b> [2] - 33:18, 34:2</p> <p><b>meant</b> [1] - 10:24</p> <p><b>medical</b> [1] - 10:4</p> <p><b>MEETING</b> [2] - 1:4, 1:15</p> <p><b>meeting</b> [24] - 3:4, 3:5, 4:17, 5:2, 5:11, 5:12, 5:15, 6:1, 6:2, 6:5, 6:12, 6:14, 7:10, 7:12, 7:15, 7:19, 8:23, 25:18, 26:5, 26:15, 26:21, 28:13, 29:6</p> <p><b>Meggs</b> [2] - 24:23, 26:8</p> <p><b>melted</b> [1] - 40:13</p> <p><b>member</b> [1] - 24:6</p> <p><b>members</b> [2] - 30:7, 49:19</p> <p><b>MEMBERS</b> [1] - 1:9</p> <p><b>memorialization</b> [3] - 48:5, 48:7, 48:16</p> <p><b>memorials</b> [1] - 45:18</p> <p><b>men</b> [2] - 35:11, 42:2</p> <p><b>mention</b> [1] - 9:14</p>

<p><b>mentioned</b> [3] - 9:22, 40:25, 48:21</p> <p><b>mercury</b> [1] - 45:10</p> <p><b>met</b> [1] - 41:15</p> <p><b>metals</b> [1] - 45:9</p> <p><b>meter</b> [1] - 39:19</p> <p><b>meticulously</b> [1] - 36:22</p> <p><b>METZKE</b> [3] - 1:17, 51:5, 51:11</p> <p><b>mid</b> [1] - 46:23</p> <p><b>might</b> [10] - 6:25, 9:13, 9:25, 12:22, 18:4, 21:20, 25:10, 31:25, 36:9, 37:2</p> <p><b>million</b> [1] - 11:8</p> <p><b>mind</b> [1] - 15:5</p> <p><b>mined</b> [1] - 35:5</p> <p><b>mingled</b> [1] - 37:17</p> <p><b>minimum</b> [1] - 37:19</p> <p><b>minute</b> [1] - 49:25</p> <p><b>minutes</b> [1] - 28:12</p> <p><b>missing</b> [1] - 44:5</p> <p><b>Mississippi</b> [1] - 11:23</p> <p><b>modern</b> [4] - 38:17, 38:20, 39:2, 42:9</p> <p><b>modern-day</b> [3] - 38:20, 39:2, 42:9</p> <p><b>months</b> [1] - 7:23</p> <p><b>morning</b> [2] - 3:3, 3:12</p> <p><b>morning's</b> [1] - 3:6</p> <p><b>most</b> [7] - 17:23, 18:3, 20:1, 34:11, 37:22, 38:10, 40:15</p> <p><b>motion</b> [19] - 13:14, 16:6, 20:4, 20:5, 21:20, 22:12, 22:13, 23:9, 25:7, 25:9, 25:11, 27:6, 27:12, 28:14, 28:21, 29:7, 29:14, 30:21, 31:3</p> <p><b>move</b> [6] - 6:19, 14:20, 18:19, 20:2, 41:11, 49:12</p> <p><b>moved</b> [3] - 28:16, 29:9, 30:23</p> <p><b>moving</b> [1] - 7:22</p> <p><b>MS</b> [5] - 7:16, 7:20, 28:6, 28:23, 29:17</p> <p><b>mulberry</b> [1] - 37:1</p> <p><b>multiple</b> [1] - 47:16</p> <p><b>must</b> [1] - 24:6</p>	<p><b>NANCY</b> [3] - 1:17, 51:5, 51:11</p> <p><b>nancy@metzke.com</b> [1] - 1:24</p> <p><b>narrative</b> [1] - 47:6</p> <p><b>narratives</b> [2] - 47:16, 48:2</p> <p><b>national</b> [3] - 8:6, 8:7, 49:6</p> <p><b>National</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>nationally</b> [2] - 4:15, 7:1</p> <p><b>nationally-recognized</b> [1] - 4:15</p> <p><b>nationwide</b> [1] - 4:12</p> <p><b>nature</b> [1] - 22:18</p> <p><b>necessarily</b> [1] - 17:6</p> <p><b>neck</b> [1] - 25:21</p> <p><b>need</b> [3] - 4:8, 8:11, 47:5</p> <p><b>needed</b> [1] - 32:12</p> <p><b>needs</b> [4] - 11:5, 11:11, 12:14, 13:7</p> <p><b>neighbor</b> [1] - 11:20</p> <p><b>neighboring</b> [1] - 11:14</p> <p><b>never</b> [1] - 39:3</p> <p><b>next</b> [8] - 4:3, 6:14, 7:11, 25:16, 26:14, 26:23, 28:3, 30:3</p> <p><b>NO</b> [3] - 2:2, 27:11, 28:20</p> <p><b>nominate</b> [3] - 24:21, 24:22, 24:25</p> <p><b>nominated</b> [1] - 26:3</p> <p><b>nominations</b> [1] - 24:9</p> <p><b>nominee</b> [2] - 25:18, 25:21</p> <p><b>nominees</b> [1] - 28:25</p> <p><b>none</b> [4] - 27:12, 28:21, 29:14, 31:3</p> <p><b>North</b> [1] - 40:19</p> <p><b>north</b> [2] - 34:9, 34:18</p> <p><b>northern</b> [1] - 34:13</p> <p><b>notes</b> [1] - 51:6</p> <p><b>notion</b> [1] - 47:13</p> <p><b>nuance</b> [1] - 47:9</p> <p><b>Number</b> [3] - 29:2, 30:10, 31:7</p> <p><b>number</b> [6] - 10:10, 13:2, 13:4, 21:6, 38:13, 41:19</p> <p><b>numerous</b> [3] - 46:16, 48:25</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>O</b></p> <p><b>Ober</b> [2] - 24:25, 26:9</p> <p><b>objections</b> [4] - 27:10, 28:19, 29:12, 31:1</p> <p><b>objectives</b> [1] - 33:3</p> <p><b>obviously</b> [1] - 9:8</p> <p><b>odds</b> [1] - 19:6</p> <p><b>OF</b> [12] - 1:1, 1:4, 1:11, 3:14, 4:1, 28:1, 30:1, 50:2, 50:3, 51:3, 51:3</p> <p><b>Offender</b> [1] - 24:6</p> <p><b>offer</b> [1] - 25:15</p> <p><b>Office</b> [3] - 2:4, 4:6, 40:19</p> <p><b>office</b> [6] - 5:4, 5:9, 5:12, 5:24, 6:2, 8:23</p> <p><b>OFFICE</b> [1] - 1:23</p> <p><b>OFFICER</b> [1] - 1:10</p> <p><b>Officers'</b> [1] - 28:25</p> <p><b>offices</b> [2] - 4:18, 4:20</p> <p><b>Ohio</b> [1] - 11:21</p> <p><b>OIR</b> [5] - 5:21, 6:22, 6:23, 7:8, 17:21</p> <p><b>older</b> [1] - 41:25</p> <p><b>older-aged</b> [1] - 41:25</p> <p><b>OLSON</b> [2] - 7:16, 7:20</p> <p><b>once</b> [3] - 18:23, 33:9, 36:17</p> <p><b>one</b> [31] - 4:8, 7:25, 8:1, 9:9, 9:14, 9:21, 11:2, 11:3, 14:13, 16:5, 21:9, 25:5, 25:13, 26:23, 29:5, 33:14, 33:19, 34:8, 35:13, 38:7, 38:17, 38:24, 40:1, 41:12, 41:23, 46:13, 46:20, 47:14, 47:19, 48:20</p> <p><b>one's</b> [1] - 48:8</p> <p><b>ongoing</b> [2] - 41:1, 48:11</p> <p><b>online</b> [2] - 8:8, 49:2</p> <p><b>open</b> [10] - 5:8, 8:11, 8:12, 8:13, 12:13, 15:16, 21:12, 22:5, 22:9</p> <p><b>opened</b> [1] - 5:23</p> <p><b>openly</b> [1] - 33:11</p> <p><b>operated</b> [1] - 30:16</p> <p><b>opinion</b> [1] - 13:17</p> <p><b>opinions</b> [1] - 10:15</p> <p><b>opportunity</b> [2] - 6:12, 49:15</p>	<p><b>opposite</b> [1] - 34:16</p> <p><b>orchard</b> [1] - 39:4</p> <p><b>order</b> [2] - 33:4, 36:8</p> <p><b>organized</b> [2] - 47:1</p> <p><b>ought</b> [3] - 13:4, 20:22, 20:23</p> <p><b>ourselves</b> [1] - 19:1</p> <p><b>outer</b> [1] - 37:14</p> <p><b>outline</b> [1] - 6:17</p> <p><b>outreach</b> [2] - 33:12, 42:16</p> <p><b>outside</b> [4] - 26:5, 33:7, 36:24, 45:22</p> <p><b>overall</b> [3] - 34:7, 36:5, 44:13</p> <p><b>overburden</b> [1] - 36:14</p> <p><b>overviews</b> [1] - 36:23</p> <p><b>own</b> [1] - 6:11</p>	<p><b>perfect</b> [1] - 27:5</p> <p><b>perhaps</b> [1] - 48:10</p> <p><b>permission</b> [1] - 32:4</p> <p><b>permissions</b> [1] - 49:3</p> <p><b>permits</b> [1] - 44:9</p> <p><b>person</b> [3] - 7:4, 33:20, 37:10</p> <p><b>personal</b> [2] - 38:11, 40:14</p> <p><b>perspective</b> [1] - 47:15</p> <p><b>pesticides</b> [1] - 45:9</p> <p><b>Phase</b> [1] - 45:23</p> <p><b>photo</b> [1] - 36:14</p> <p><b>photograph</b> [1] - 38:22</p> <p><b>photographed</b> [2] - 35:24, 36:20</p> <p><b>photographs</b> [1] - 31:21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>P</b></p>	<p><b>picks</b> [1] - 36:21</p> <p><b>picture</b> [1] - 43:7</p> <p><b>pictured</b> [1] - 38:25</p> <p><b>piling</b> [1] - 40:12</p> <p><b>pin</b> [1] - 38:4</p> <p><b>pines</b> [1] - 38:4</p> <p><b>pins</b> [1] - 38:14</p> <p><b>place</b> [6] - 9:3, 13:14, 15:24, 19:25, 36:10, 48:11</p> <p><b>placed</b> [1] - 37:13</p> <p><b>plant</b> [1] - 38:4</p> <p><b>player</b> [1] - 17:13</p> <p><b>PLEDGE</b> [1] - 3:14</p> <p><b>pledge</b> [1] - 3:8</p> <p><b>plots</b> [1] - 41:10</p> <p><b>plus</b> [1] - 8:15</p> <p><b>Point</b> [1] - 31:25</p> <p><b>point</b> [4] - 9:15, 34:8, 34:22, 45:2</p> <p><b>points</b> [1] - 31:22</p> <p><b>pollutants</b> [1] - 45:10</p> <p><b>pool</b> [3] - 9:25, 12:23, 23:3</p> <p><b>portions</b> [1] - 45:7</p> <p><b>position</b> [12] - 4:9, 4:14, 4:18, 9:22, 10:25, 13:15, 15:15, 16:10, 20:6, 21:12, 23:2</p> <p><b>positions</b> [4] - 11:15, 18:13, 23:4, 25:3</p> <p><b>positive</b> [2] - 40:22, 41:3</p> <p><b>possible</b> [4] - 7:3, 15:20, 44:8, 48:1</p> <p><b>possibly</b> [1] - 6:19</p> <p><b>POST</b> [1] - 1:23</p> <p><b>post</b> [2] - 4:21, 11:4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>N</b></p>						
<p><b>name</b> [6] - 19:24, 25:14, 25:15, 25:17, 43:18, 46:7</p>						

<p><b>posted</b> [2] - 4:19, 49:2</p> <p><b>posting</b> [2] - 7:2, 48:22</p> <p><b>posts</b> [1] - 36:9</p> <p><b>pounds</b> [1] - 39:17</p> <p><b>Power</b> [1] - 31:25</p> <p><b>prefer</b> [1] - 24:8</p> <p><b>prepared</b> [3] - 25:15, 25:16, 25:24</p> <p><b>present</b> [1] - 49:7</p> <p><b>presentation</b> [1] - 31:7</p> <p><b>presented</b> [2] - 31:13, 49:5</p> <p><b>presently</b> [1] - 15:16</p> <p><b>presume</b> [1] - 42:1</p> <p><b>presumptive</b> [1] - 40:24</p> <p><b>presumptively</b> [1] - 33:17</p> <p><b>pretty</b> [1] - 43:12</p> <p><b>price</b> [2] - 14:6, 18:7</p> <p><b>PRIDE</b> [1] - 38:3</p> <p><b>Pritt</b> [2] - 28:4, 28:9</p> <p><b>PRITT</b> [3] - 28:6, 28:23, 29:17</p> <p><b>private</b> [7] - 11:3, 14:6, 14:15, 15:9, 18:14, 30:14, 32:20</p> <p><b>private-sector</b> [1] - 14:15</p> <p><b>problem</b> [1] - 9:18</p> <p><b>proceedings</b> [1] - 51:6</p> <p><b>process</b> [13] - 4:23, 4:24, 5:3, 6:20, 9:10, 10:4, 14:24, 16:12, 18:5, 29:4, 29:5, 33:13, 41:5</p> <p><b>processes</b> [1] - 48:12</p> <p><b>professional</b> [1] - 12:22</p> <p><b>professor</b> [2] - 43:19, 46:8</p> <p><b>programs</b> [1] - 42:16</p> <p><b>project</b> [6] - 32:23, 46:9, 46:15, 47:18, 48:6, 49:21</p> <p><b>promising</b> [1] - 15:4</p> <p><b>property</b> [4] - 10:5, 33:9, 34:14, 44:7</p> <p><b>proposal</b> [6] - 5:16, 12:15, 16:15, 16:16, 24:16, 24:19</p> <p><b>propose</b> [3] - 5:7, 6:13, 48:10</p> <p><b>prospection</b> [2] - 43:24, 45:6</p>	<p><b>Protection</b> [3] - 30:5, 32:5, 45:14</p> <p><b>provide</b> [1] - 40:9</p> <p><b>provided</b> [1] - 32:18</p> <p><b>public</b> [16] - 4:16, 5:14, 6:3, 6:8, 6:13, 8:25, 14:18, 33:10, 33:12, 42:16, 42:17, 48:19, 48:20, 48:23, 48:24, 49:20</p> <p><b>publication</b> [1] - 8:6</p> <p><b>publications</b> [2] - 4:15, 9:16</p> <p><b>publicly</b> [1] - 36:3</p> <p><b>pull</b> [2] - 18:17, 33:1</p> <p><b>pulled</b> [1] - 5:4</p> <p><b>push</b> [2] - 40:10, 47:24</p> <p><b>pushing</b> [1] - 48:6</p> <p><b>Pusifer</b> [1] - 3:11</p> <p><b>put</b> [10] - 13:2, 13:4, 14:6, 16:23, 19:24, 20:24, 21:1, 21:2, 32:1, 38:2</p> <p><b>PUTNAM</b> [24] - 1:12, 6:8, 7:13, 8:5, 9:6, 14:2, 14:11, 15:2, 16:2, 16:18, 19:11, 19:16, 21:11, 21:15, 21:23, 22:17, 22:25, 25:14, 25:23, 26:17, 26:24, 27:1, 29:9, 30:23</p> <p><b>Putnam</b> [4] - 17:3, 22:9, 28:8, 41:16</p> <p><b>putting</b> [2] - 35:1, 37:18</p>	<p><b>RE</b> [1] - 1:4</p> <p><b>ready</b> [1] - 14:15</p> <p><b>really</b> [9] - 3:9, 11:17, 15:20, 32:21, 32:25, 36:15, 41:16, 42:3, 43:5</p> <p><b>rebuilt</b> [1] - 35:6</p> <p><b>reburial</b> [1] - 41:12</p> <p><b>reburials</b> [1] - 45:18</p> <p><b>rebury</b> [3] - 33:16, 41:8, 41:9</p> <p><b>recap</b> [1] - 32:3</p> <p><b>received</b> [1] - 4:19</p> <p><b>reception</b> [1] - 18:12</p> <p><b>recognize</b> [7] - 28:4, 30:3, 42:17, 46:14, 46:18, 47:4</p> <p><b>recognized</b> [1] - 4:15</p> <p><b>recommend</b> [6] - 5:1, 5:13, 6:2, 8:24, 24:7, 24:20</p> <p><b>recommendation</b> [2] - 26:15, 31:13</p> <p><b>recommendations</b> [1] - 21:7</p> <p><b>recommends</b> [1] - 30:19</p> <p><b>reconstructed</b> [1] - 35:7</p> <p><b>record</b> [1] - 51:6</p> <p><b>records</b> [2] - 42:9, 46:25</p> <p><b>red</b> [1] - 36:15</p> <p><b>Redevelopment</b> [1] - 43:22</p> <p><b>referenced</b> [1] - 35:24</p> <p><b>references</b> [1] - 35:10</p> <p><b>reflection</b> [1] - 12:10</p> <p><b>reforms</b> [1] - 10:6</p> <p><b>regarding</b> [1] - 48:12</p> <p><b>regardless</b> [1] - 47:22</p> <p><b>regions</b> [1] - 44:13</p> <p><b>Regulation</b> [2] - 2:4, 4:6</p> <p><b>reiterate</b> [1] - 44:1</p> <p><b>relocating</b> [1] - 17:5</p> <p><b>remain</b> [2] - 3:7, 33:16</p> <p><b>REMAINDER</b> [1] - 50:2</p> <p><b>remains</b> [13] - 32:9, 32:10, 37:17, 37:22, 39:5, 40:15, 40:22, 41:21, 41:24, 42:8, 44:5, 44:21, 48:9</p> <p><b>remarkable</b> [1] - 33:1</p> <p><b>remind</b> [1] - 31:12</p>	<p><b>remote</b> [3] - 32:7, 35:19, 36:6</p> <p><b>remove</b> [2] - 36:11, 36:13</p> <p><b>removed</b> [1] - 36:17</p> <p><b>repatriated</b> [1] - 33:5</p> <p><b>report</b> [9] - 31:9, 31:14, 31:22, 32:17, 40:17, 44:21, 45:3, 45:21, 51:5</p> <p><b>REPORTED</b> [2] - 1:17, 50:3</p> <p><b>reported</b> [1] - 44:6</p> <p><b>reporter</b> [1] - 50:1</p> <p><b>REPORTER</b> [1] - 1:18</p> <p><b>Reporter</b> [1] - 51:11</p> <p><b>REPORTERS</b> [1] - 1:22</p> <p><b>REPORTERS</b> [1] - 50:3</p> <p><b>represented</b> [2] - 37:19, 41:24</p> <p><b>reputation</b> [1] - 22:19</p> <p><b>request</b> [1] - 30:11</p> <p><b>requesting</b> [1] - 29:1</p> <p><b>require</b> [1] - 31:15</p> <p><b>requires</b> [1] - 18:16</p> <p><b>Research</b> [1] - 43:22</p> <p><b>research</b> [2] - 46:6, 47:12</p> <p><b>residents</b> [1] - 45:20</p> <p><b>resignation</b> [2] - 5:7, 5:22</p> <p><b>resonates</b> [1] - 46:23</p> <p><b>resource</b> [1] - 49:4</p> <p><b>resources</b> [1] - 32:21</p> <p><b>respectfully</b> [1] - 29:1</p> <p><b>response</b> [1] - 10:18</p> <p><b>RESPONSE</b> [5] - 20:15, 27:11, 28:20, 29:13, 31:2</p> <p><b>responsibility</b> [1] - 46:12</p> <p><b>rest</b> [1] - 37:22</p> <p><b>results</b> [1] - 33:10</p> <p><b>retained</b> [1] - 47:7</p> <p><b>returned</b> [1] - 33:5</p> <p><b>reuse</b> [1] - 45:16</p> <p><b>revealed</b> [1] - 44:20</p> <p><b>Revenue</b> [4] - 2:3, 4:5, 22:1, 23:1</p> <p><b>review</b> [2] - 4:20, 12:14</p> <p><b>Review</b> [1] - 24:6</p> <p><b>revisited</b> [1] - 10:7</p> <p><b>Rhodes</b> [1] - 21:25</p>	<p><b>RICK</b> [1] - 1:9</p> <p><b>road</b> [2] - 34:21, 43:11</p> <p><b>roads</b> [3] - 35:2, 39:11</p> <p><b>role</b> [5] - 10:20, 12:9, 12:25, 15:11, 17:10</p> <p><b>roles</b> [1] - 18:14</p> <p><b>ROOM</b> [1] - 1:15</p> <p><b>roughly</b> [1] - 39:19</p> <p><b>RPR</b> [3] - 1:17, 51:5, 51:11</p> <p><b>run</b> [2] - 8:7, 38:4</p>
<b>Q</b>				
<p><b>Qualifications</b> [3] - 2:6, 24:4, 24:7</p> <p><b>QUALIFICATIONS</b> [1] - 24:1</p> <p><b>quarries</b> [1] - 44:24</p> <p><b>questions</b> [3] - 20:14, 31:24, 43:15</p> <p><b>quick</b> [1] - 9:16</p> <p><b>quite</b> [1] - 39:24</p>				
<b>R</b>				
<p><b>radar</b> [1] - 44:10</p> <p><b>raise</b> [1] - 17:5</p> <p><b>range</b> [8] - 13:3, 15:23, 16:10, 18:10, 19:3, 20:7, 20:9, 21:10</p> <p><b>ranges</b> [1] - 18:7</p> <p><b>rate</b> [1] - 21:21</p>				
<p><b>S</b></p> <p><b>safe</b> [1] - 36:13</p> <p><b>SAID</b> [1] - 3:14</p> <p><b>sake</b> [1] - 13:12</p> <p><b>salary</b> [12] - 10:19, 11:5, 12:24, 15:16, 15:17, 18:10, 19:3, 20:7, 20:9, 21:21, 21:22</p> <p><b>sampled</b> [1] - 39:14</p> <p><b>samples</b> [2] - 40:21, 41:22</p> <p><b>sampling</b> [1] - 39:8</p> <p><b>sand</b> [1] - 37:15</p> <p><b>SBA</b> [2] - 17:14, 22:22</p> <p><b>schedule</b> [3] - 5:13, 6:3, 7:9</p> <p><b>school</b> [3] - 3:10, 38:23, 44:22</p> <p><b>School</b> [3] - 31:11, 32:8, 48:13</p> <p><b>Science</b> [1] - 40:19</p> <p><b>scope</b> [1] - 45:22</p> <p><b>SCOTT</b> [87] - 1:9, 3:3, 4:3, 5:1, 5:18, 5:21, 6:10, 6:16, 6:22, 6:24, 7:8, 7:14, 7:17, 7:21, 7:24, 8:13, 9:4, 9:11, 11:2, 11:25, 12:12, 13:1, 13:6, 13:20, 13:25, 14:4, 15:1, 16:3, 16:11, 16:14, 17:18, 18:2, 19:5, 19:9, 19:13, 19:20, 20:3, 20:10, 20:13, 20:16, 20:18, 20:22, 21:24, 22:13, 23:5, 23:8, 23:11, 23:14, 24:3, 24:12, 24:16, 24:19, 25:2, 25:5, 25:8, 26:4, 26:11, 26:14, 26:18, 26:21, 26:25, 27:4, 27:6, 27:9, 27:12,</p>				

<p>28:3, 28:14, 28:17, 28:19, 28:21, 29:7, 29:10, 29:12, 29:14, 29:20, 30:3, 30:8, 30:21, 30:24, 31:1, 31:3, 31:18, 32:2, 43:16, 46:2, 46:4, 49:24</p> <p><b>Scott</b> [1] - 46:5</p> <p><b>screen</b> [1] - 40:8</p> <p><b>screened</b> [1] - 39:16</p> <p><b>screening</b> [1] - 39:18</p> <p><b>search</b> [3] - 4:12, 8:8, 42:7</p> <p><b>searched</b> [1] - 33:8</p> <p><b>searches</b> [2] - 18:7, 35:20</p> <p><b>season</b> [2] - 7:5, 9:3</p> <p><b>sec</b> [1] - 13:22</p> <p><b>second</b> [15] - 13:21, 14:1, 20:11, 20:12, 21:23, 27:7, 27:8, 28:17, 28:18, 28:23, 29:10, 29:11, 30:24, 30:25, 45:2</p> <p><b>seconded</b> [1] - 23:12</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> [1] - 2:11</p> <p><b>SECRETARY</b> [3] - 30:6, 30:9, 31:5</p> <p><b>section</b> [1] - 34:9</p> <p><b>sections</b> [1] - 34:9</p> <p><b>sector</b> [6] - 11:3, 14:6, 14:15, 14:19, 15:9, 18:14</p> <p><b>see</b> [11] - 11:16, 12:14, 17:20, 32:16, 33:1, 34:19, 36:14, 37:10, 40:3, 40:11, 47:13</p> <p><b>seeing</b> [1] - 7:2</p> <p><b>seek</b> [1] - 22:21</p> <p><b>seeking</b> [1] - 17:10</p> <p><b>seem</b> [1] - 14:13</p> <p><b>segregated</b> [1] - 46:22</p> <p><b>segregation</b> [2] - 46:21, 47:2</p> <p><b>select</b> [1] - 23:3</p> <p><b>selected</b> [4] - 5:10, 5:14, 5:25, 6:4</p> <p><b>selection</b> [1] - 4:11</p> <p><b>sense</b> [4] - 6:16, 13:1, 23:5, 26:25</p> <p><b>sensing</b> [3] - 32:7, 35:19, 36:6</p> <p><b>sent</b> [3] - 4:20, 35:11, 41:14</p> <p><b>separated</b> [1] - 42:3</p> <p><b>September</b> [1] - 49:10</p>	<p><b>ser</b> [1] - 20:24</p> <p><b>serve</b> [4] - 24:22, 24:23, 25:1, 25:11</p> <p><b>service</b> [1] - 14:16</p> <p><b>set</b> [4] - 4:13, 4:16, 5:2, 22:21</p> <p><b>sets</b> [2] - 18:19, 18:21</p> <p><b>settle</b> [1] - 17:15</p> <p><b>seven</b> [3] - 37:11, 37:16, 40:22</p> <p><b>several</b> [5] - 4:8, 32:14, 37:9, 41:2, 44:16</p> <p><b>shallow</b> [2] - 36:7, 44:17</p> <p><b>share</b> [5] - 10:1, 31:23, 33:10, 42:21, 43:25</p> <p><b>Sheriff</b> [4] - 24:21, 25:11, 26:7, 26:12</p> <p><b>Sheriff's</b> [1] - 40:18</p> <p><b>shop</b> [1] - 39:3</p> <p><b>Shore</b> [2] - 24:21, 26:8</p> <p><b>shots</b> [1] - 36:23</p> <p><b>show</b> [3] - 35:22, 38:25, 41:17</p> <p><b>showed</b> [1] - 44:16</p> <p><b>showing</b> [4] - 34:7, 34:18, 36:16, 39:25</p> <p><b>shrouds</b> [1] - 38:14</p> <p><b>side</b> [3] - 15:12, 15:13, 34:16</p> <p><b>sifted</b> [1] - 39:17</p> <p><b>signal</b> [1] - 21:17</p> <p><b>significant</b> [3] - 10:6, 18:25, 45:7</p> <p><b>significantly</b> [2] - 37:16, 40:16</p> <p><b>similar</b> [3] - 11:15, 21:5, 22:22</p> <p><b>simply</b> [1] - 33:3</p> <p><b>singing</b> [1] - 3:10</p> <p><b>site</b> [7] - 36:5, 37:23, 38:16, 44:3, 45:24, 48:9, 48:10</p> <p><b>sitting</b> [1] - 22:9</p> <p><b>situation</b> [1] - 48:13</p> <p><b>situations</b> [1] - 48:15</p> <p><b>size</b> [2] - 37:12, 37:14</p> <p><b>skill</b> [2] - 18:19, 18:20</p> <p><b>skills</b> [1] - 22:22</p> <p><b>slightly</b> [2] - 7:4, 17:12</p> <p><b>slips</b> [1] - 30:13</p> <p><b>small</b> [1] - 40:15</p> <p><b>smart</b> [1] - 3:9</p>	<p><b>soil</b> [4] - 36:12, 40:4, 40:5, 45:5</p> <p><b>solvents</b> [1] - 45:9</p> <p><b>someone</b> [4] - 10:16, 12:8, 18:17, 18:18</p> <p><b>someplace</b> [1] - 18:20</p> <p><b>somewhere</b> [1] - 10:21</p> <p><b>soon</b> [1] - 41:11</p> <p><b>sorry</b> [2] - 39:11, 43:11</p> <p><b>sort</b> [3] - 14:23, 20:25, 39:3</p> <p><b>South</b> [5] - 12:3, 12:5, 31:8, 43:20, 46:9</p> <p><b>south</b> [1] - 34:9</p> <p><b>space</b> [1] - 39:9</p> <p><b>span</b> [1] - 35:4</p> <p><b>specialty</b> [1] - 23:4</p> <p><b>specific</b> [1] - 22:21</p> <p><b>spent</b> [2] - 37:23, 46:15</p> <p><b>spoken</b> [4] - 25:19, 25:22, 26:1, 49:3</p> <p><b>square</b> [1] - 30:12</p> <p><b>staff</b> [3] - 5:13, 6:3, 8:24</p> <p><b>stain</b> [1] - 36:15</p> <p><b>stakeholder</b> [1] - 47:17</p> <p><b>standard</b> [1] - 30:19</p> <p><b>standing</b> [1] - 3:7</p> <p><b>stands</b> [1] - 36:15</p> <p><b>start</b> [1] - 36:10</p> <p><b>started</b> [2] - 27:3, 36:5</p> <p><b>starting</b> [1] - 16:20</p> <p><b>state</b> [7] - 10:16, 14:19, 32:18, 42:15, 43:3, 47:11, 48:5</p> <p><b>State</b> [6] - 3:9, 17:11, 24:25, 25:20, 26:8, 49:12</p> <p><b>STATE</b> [2] - 1:1, 51:3</p> <p><b>states</b> [1] - 11:15</p> <p><b>stations</b> [1] - 40:8</p> <p><b>statute</b> [1] - 18:15</p> <p><b>stenographic</b> [1] - 51:6</p> <p><b>stenographically</b> [1] - 51:5</p> <p><b>step</b> [1] - 29:5</p> <p><b>STEVERSON</b> [3] - 30:6, 30:9, 31:5</p> <p><b>Steverson</b> [2] - 2:11, 30:4</p> <p><b>still</b> [1] - 33:15</p> <p><b>Stock</b> [1] - 30:15</p>	<p><b>stories</b> [3] - 42:22, 47:10, 49:20</p> <p><b>story</b> [3] - 47:12, 49:15, 49:18</p> <p><b>strategy</b> [1] - 39:8</p> <p><b>strong</b> [3] - 18:18, 32:21, 41:3</p> <p><b>structure</b> [2] - 37:24, 39:25</p> <p><b>study</b> [1] - 45:23</p> <p><b>stuff</b> [1] - 14:12</p> <p><b>submerged</b> [1] - 30:11</p> <p><b>submitted</b> [1] - 4:17</p> <p><b>subsequently</b> [1] - 32:11</p> <p><b>subsurface</b> [1] - 44:10</p> <p><b>suggest</b> [1] - 10:24</p> <p><b>summarize</b> [1] - 32:15</p> <p><b>supplemental</b> [1] - 42:24</p> <p><b>support</b> [4] - 47:18, 48:10, 48:17, 49:19</p> <p><b>supporting</b> [1] - 46:6</p> <p><b>surrounded</b> [1] - 39:10</p> <p><b>surrounding</b> [1] - 44:15</p> <p><b>surveyed</b> [1] - 44:13</p> <p><b>Susan</b> [2] - 25:11, 26:12</p> <p><b>Swearingen</b> [2] - 21:25, 28:10</p> <p><b>symposium</b> [1] - 42:18</p> <p><b>syringes</b> [1] - 38:20</p> <p><b>systems</b> [1] - 47:11</p>	<p><b>term</b> [1] - 30:20</p> <p><b>terms</b> [3] - 39:14, 46:24, 47:14</p> <p><b>terrain</b> [1] - 44:25</p> <p><b>Terry</b> [1] - 21:25</p> <p><b>testing</b> [4] - 40:23, 44:10, 44:19, 45:5</p> <p><b>Texas</b> [5] - 11:18, 12:6, 12:7, 13:10, 40:19</p> <p><b>THE</b> [7] - 1:4, 1:15, 3:13, 30:1, 50:2</p> <p><b>themselves</b> [2] - 12:21, 21:16</p> <p><b>therefore</b> [2] - 31:15, 45:12</p> <p><b>they've</b> [1] - 35:5</p> <p><b>thinking</b> [1] - 9:6</p> <p><b>Thomas</b> [1] - 41:13</p> <p><b>thorough</b> [1] - 35:18</p> <p><b>thousands</b> [1] - 37:8</p> <p><b>three</b> [3] - 37:19, 41:10, 41:23</p> <p><b>throughout</b> [7] - 33:8, 33:13, 38:16, 39:12, 40:2, 47:3, 49:6</p> <p><b>throw</b> [4] - 9:24, 10:13, 11:18, 13:11</p> <p><b>throwaway</b> [3] - 47:6, 47:8, 47:13</p> <p><b>THURSDAY</b> [1] - 1:13</p> <p><b>tight</b> [1] - 8:10</p> <p><b>timeframe</b> [3] - 4:14, 5:2, 8:3</p> <p><b>timeline</b> [3] - 4:10, 9:7, 9:9</p> <p><b>today</b> [13] - 24:9, 25:15, 28:10, 31:20, 34:22, 35:3, 43:8, 43:11, 46:10, 46:24, 47:12, 48:20</p> <p><b>together</b> [3] - 33:2, 35:1, 37:18</p> <p><b>took</b> [2] - 35:12, 41:6</p> <p><b>top</b> [4] - 17:22, 36:11, 37:2, 40:1</p> <p><b>topsoil</b> [1] - 36:17</p> <p><b>totaling</b> [1] - 44:14</p> <p><b>towards</b> [2] - 32:10, 33:11</p> <p><b>track</b> [2] - 35:23, 40:20</p> <p><b>trade</b> [1] - 8:6</p> <p><b>transcript</b> [1] - 51:6</p> <p><b>transcripts</b> [1] - 48:25</p> <p><b>transparent</b> [1] - 48:23</p> <p><b>transpires</b> [1] - 42:6</p>
<b>T</b>				
<p><b>T's</b> [1] - 29:5</p> <p><b>table</b> [2] - 22:14, 23:9</p> <p><b>talent</b> [15] - 12:11, 12:23, 14:22, 15:11, 15:24, 17:4, 17:10, 17:15, 17:16, 18:6, 18:23, 19:1, 19:20, 19:23</p> <p><b>talents</b> [1] - 16:8</p> <p><b>TALLAHASSEE</b> [2] - 1:16, 1:23</p> <p><b>Tampa</b> [1] - 43:1</p> <p><b>tapes</b> [1] - 48:25</p> <p><b>tasks</b> [1] - 47:20</p> <p><b>technical</b> [1] - 22:18</p> <p><b>Tennessee</b> [1] - 11:20</p>				

<p><b>trash</b> [1] - 36:9  <b>tree</b> [1] - 37:1  <b>trees</b> [1] - 36:25  <b>tremendous</b> [1] - 14:14  <b>trenches</b> [4] - 36:7, 39:15, 39:18, 44:18  <b>trenching</b> [2] - 35:21, 38:5  <b>tried</b> [2] - 33:10, 35:12  <b>true</b> [2] - 22:24, 51:6  <b>TRUST</b> [1] - 30:1  <b>Trust</b> [1] - 2:11  <b>TRUSTEES</b> [1] - 30:1  <b>Trustees</b> [2] - 2:10, 30:10  <b>truthing</b> [1] - 36:7  <b>try</b> [4] - 32:14, 36:8, 40:20, 42:16  <b>trying</b> [1] - 39:14  <b>tunnels</b> [4] - 39:13, 39:21, 40:1, 40:2  <b>turn</b> [1] - 43:13  <b>turned</b> [2] - 38:19, 40:9  <b>two</b> [13] - 6:19, 7:23, 9:8, 14:13, 23:15, 28:11, 30:9, 34:9, 37:2, 38:23, 41:25, 43:25, 44:8  <b>type</b> [1] - 12:9  <b>types</b> [3] - 14:13, 19:20, 46:24  <b>typically</b> [1] - 14:5</p>	<p><b>unpaved</b> [1] - 43:11  <b>up</b> [21] - 6:19, 7:22, 9:18, 16:23, 18:24, 19:9, 21:5, 22:5, 22:7, 32:1, 34:21, 35:13, 37:3, 39:7, 39:21, 39:23, 40:12, 42:8, 42:12, 43:11  <b>update</b> [1] - 4:9  <b>upper</b> [1] - 20:9  <b>urge</b> [1] - 45:12  <b>USF</b> [3] - 32:4, 42:18, 48:23</p>	<p><b>window</b> [2] - 8:9, 8:11  <b>wish</b> [1] - 15:18  <b>withdraw</b> [2] - 29:1, 29:8  <b>witnesses</b> [2] - 35:10, 42:9  <b>woods</b> [2] - 25:21, 34:23  <b>workers'</b> [1] - 10:5  <b>works</b> [2] - 9:7, 27:1  <b>World</b> [1] - 49:8  <b>world</b> [2] - 15:18, 22:19  <b>worth</b> [1] - 11:1  <b>worthy</b> [1] - 18:9</p>
<b>U</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Y</b>
<p><b>ultimately</b> [6] - 31:23, 33:15, 35:20, 36:1, 37:24, 37:25  <b>uncle</b> [1] - 41:13  <b>under</b> [4] - 17:23, 36:25, 44:8  <b>underground</b> [2] - 39:13, 40:1  <b>unfortunately</b> [2] - 41:22, 42:3  <b>unidentified</b> [1] - 33:16  <b>unique</b> [2] - 18:13, 22:18  <b>uniquely</b> [1] - 18:18  <b>University</b> [5] - 3:10, 31:8, 40:19, 43:20, 46:8  <b>unknown</b> [2] - 34:4, 42:4  <b>unknowns</b> [1] - 42:5  <b>unmarked</b> [1] - 34:25</p>	<p><b>vacancy</b> [3] - 4:13, 5:3, 24:5  <b>varied</b> [1] - 39:19  <b>Varnadoe</b> [2] - 41:13  <b>vary</b> [1] - 37:20  <b>video</b> [1] - 42:24  <b>Virginia</b> [1] - 11:20  <b>visible</b> [1] - 47:5  <b>VOLUME</b> [1] - 1:7  <b>volunteered</b> [1] - 32:19  <b>vote</b> [6] - 13:23, 19:6, 24:9, 26:16, 26:22, 31:16</p>	<p><b>yacht</b> [1] - 30:14  <b>year</b> [7] - 10:21, 21:12, 22:10, 30:11, 30:19, 32:8, 35:4  <b>years</b> [3] - 10:9, 32:14, 32:25  <b>young</b> [2] - 15:4, 17:4  <b>younger</b> [1] - 14:22  <b>YVONNE</b> [1] - 50:3</p>
<b>U</b>	<b>W</b>	
	<p><b>walks</b> [1] - 11:7  <b>wants</b> [1] - 22:6  <b>WAS</b> [3] - 3:13, 3:14, 50:2  <b>water</b> [4] - 39:16, 39:18, 40:8, 40:9  <b>water-screened</b> [1] - 39:16  <b>website</b> [1] - 4:21  <b>weeks</b> [1] - 6:19  <b>weight</b> [1] - 9:8  <b>welcome</b> [2] - 3:3, 3:5  <b>Wells</b> [2] - 42:10, 43:19  <b>WELLS</b> [1] - 43:17  <b>West</b> [2] - 30:12, 30:16  <b>WHEREUPON</b> [2] - 3:13, 50:2  <b>white</b> [1] - 37:15  <b>whole</b> [1] - 18:5  <b>wide</b> [1] - 39:10  <b>Willie</b> [2] - 24:22, 26:8  <b>willing</b> [2] - 14:16, 22:22</p>	

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2  
3  
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STATE OF FLORIDA

IN RE: MEETING OF THE  
GOVERNOR AND CABINET

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VOLUME II

CABINET MEMBERS:                   GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT  
  ATTORNEY GENERAL PAM BONDI  
  CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER JEFF  
  ATWATER  
  COMMISSIONER ADAM PUTNAM

DATE:                                   THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016

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I N D E X P A G E

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND. . . . . 2

DIVISON OF BOND FINANCE. . . . . 41

STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION. . . . . 45

STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION FINANCE DIVISION . . 49

1 \*\*\*\*\*

2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND

3 (CONTINUED.)

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5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Let's go ahead and get started  
6 again.

7 Secretary, who is the next speaker?

8 SECRETARY STEVERSON: Governor and Cabinet, if no  
9 members of the board has any more questions of  
10 Dr. Kimmerle or her team, I'm going to bring up David  
11 Clark up to introduce the speakers.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. I think we have another  
13 question for Dr. Kimmerle.

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: No, we're going to wait  
15 and take everybody --

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: We're going to wait? We're  
17 going to do everybody first. Sorry, sir. We're going  
18 to do everbody first before we go back to questions.

19 Mr. Clark is going to introduce our speakers.

20 MR. CLARK: Good afternoon, Governor and  
21 distinguished member of the Cabinet. I'm David Clark  
22 with the Division of State Lands.

23 We currently have 10 individuals who have  
24 specifically requested to speak. Since we do have  
25 multiple speakers, and we remind to those speakers,  
please keep your comments as succinct as possible to

1 be respectful of the others who have requested to  
2 speak. Thank you.

3 If the board is okay, we'll go ahead and get  
4 started.

5 Mr. Bill Haynes, White House Boys.

6 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good afternoon.

7 MR. HAYNES: Good afternoon, Governor Scott,  
8 General Bondi, members of the Cabinet. I'm going to  
9 yield my time to one of the other brothers so we can  
10 have -- in the expedience of time.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

12 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Governor, I have to say  
13 something.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Sure, go ahead.

15 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Mr. Haynes, thank you.

16 MR. CLARK: Mr. Jerry Cooper, White House Boys.  
17 This is the order that you asked for.

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good afternoon. How are you  
19 today?

20 MR. CLARK: Good afternoon, Governor and Cabinet.  
21 I'm very pleased and very happy about to this point of  
22 what you have accomplished over the last several years  
23 and all of the involvements that have to deal with  
24 such, basically, an ugly situation for the State of  
25 Florida, and I feel that in the end you will do the

1 proper thing and all issues involved in Dozier. I  
2 think you'll do the proper thing when it comes to  
3 reburying these children, and my biggest issue on that  
4 is they please do not be returned to that area. It's  
5 very apparent why. It's in your report. I'm sure you  
6 will read about it.

7 I just feel that a lot of these children were not  
8 buried in a proper Christian manner. They were never  
9 recognized or no semitary ever kept for them. I  
10 researched many of the state institutions that had  
11 started also at that time, including the Chattahoochee  
12 Mental Hospital. I researched Raiford Prison, several  
13 other prison facilities, and I will tell you that any  
14 death that occurred under State watch in these  
15 institutions was plotted, mapped out, and marked. I  
16 don't know what happened in Marianna. I have no clue,  
17 ladies and gentlemen. We don't even know who these  
18 children are, except through scientific and DNA  
19 analysis.

20 And I would like to say that's probably -- being  
21 a soul that stayed there back in the '60s -- that's  
22 probably the thing that most disgusts me about the  
23 whole situation, of Florida Dozier School is not  
24 taking care of those children after they died.

25 I would also like to send my thanks and commend

1 Governor Scott for passing a very good bill here just  
2 a short time ago, and it shows me that he is caring  
3 about what happens to the new generation of the  
4 children that will be growing up in the State of  
5 Florida.

6 Governor Scott, that's the bill that is  
7 absolutely says, You mess with the children of this  
8 state and you don't do them right, and you're going to  
9 end up in jail, and we really appreciate that.

10 And you have come a long ways in the Cabinet  
11 since the Dozier issue started. The juvenile  
12 incidences and problems that we've had in the state  
13 over the years have dropped dramatically. In our  
14 opinion, as The White House Boys, we feel it's dropped  
15 at least 90 percent, and it wouldn't have been done if  
16 it wouldn't have been done on your watch. That's  
17 about all I can say about it.

18 God bless you and I appreciate it. Thank you.

19 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you. Thanks for coming.

20 MR. CLARK: Next speaker is Mr. Charles Fudge,  
21 former student of Florida School For Boys, White House  
22 Boys.

23 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good afternoon.

24 MR. FUDGE: Good afternoon, Governor Scott and  
25 members of the Cabinet. Thank you for allowing me to

1 speak. I will be very quick.

2 I was Troy Tidwell's office boy, and I walked by  
3 that graveyard just about every day that I was in  
4 Marianna. On the north side of the white campus,  
5 there is a graveyard there that has more than 30  
6 graves, and I ask that this does not stop.

7 I would ask the Cabinet members to take six,  
8 eight of us boys that walked by the graveyards, and go  
9 up there and spend a day and find the graveyard and  
10 make this right for the State of Florida.

11 Members of the Cabinet, Governor Scott, thank you  
12 so much.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you for coming.

14 MR. CLARK: Next speaker is Mr. Bill Price, Vice-  
15 President of White House Boys.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Afternoon.

17 MR. PRICE: Afternoon, Governor Scott, Cabinet.  
18 I just wanted to reiterate what's already been said.  
19 These kids were not taken care of in life and we're  
20 afraid that they're not going to be taken care of in  
21 death, and that's why we would like to have them  
22 deterred (sic) somewhere other than Jackson County.  
23 We would like to have proper burials for them and set  
24 aside some sort of a monument at the school for the  
25 White House.

1 Thank you very much.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks for coming.

3 MR. CLARK: Next speaker is Mr. Robert Straley,  
4 the White House Boys Survivor Association.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good afternoon.

6 THE COURT: Hi, Cabinet. Glad to be here.

7 This is about second chances and the power of  
8 forgiveness. I had to write this down, because I  
9 knocked myself cold two weeks ago and got my sixth  
10 concussion, so my brain is a little scrambled.

11 I read Commissioner Adam Putnam's opening remarks  
12 about the Dozier property and second chances. I would  
13 have to agree with him on that.

14 Speaking before the audience of the sailing of  
15 the White House ceremony in 2008, I noticed a group of  
16 young people in front of me. Their expression was one  
17 of surprise when I spoke of flogging. They did not  
18 realize that that it had taken place in that small  
19 building that they passed every day. Can you hold a  
20 town guilty forever? For these young peoples' sake, I  
21 hope not.

22 I had a second chance in life. If something can  
23 be done, at least something within reason, I would  
24 hope this could happen for those in Marianna who  
25 should not have to endure endless blame for what their

1       elders did long ago.

2               The State has allotted funds for the families to  
3       help them rebury their children. No one wants the  
4       boys to be sent back to the Dozier seminary. Perhaps  
5       the State will help with that.

6               And a monument is very important. This  
7       remarkable seven-year journey should never be  
8       forgotten. Professor Erin Kimmerle, Dr. Christian  
9       Wells and their team found the boys and much was  
10      learned. Some have gone home at last.

11              What happened in the past time cannot be undone.  
12      Now is the time for reconciliation. There is a  
13      brighter future ahead for us all, if we only pursue  
14      it. After decades of silence, these boys's bodies  
15      would not lie quiet, nor their voices still. They are  
16      brought once again to the light of day.

17              What cannot be accomplished when the hands of  
18      many seek truth in justice? And may all who know of  
19      this story be warned. Children buried unmarked and  
20      unknown may live again; their bodies testify as did  
21      these, for the saddest chapter in the care of  
22      juveniles. A monument should be built as a place of  
23      reburial with reverence; a place relative living and  
24      those not yet unborn may come to honor these boys, a  
25      structure that they may touch and interact with.

1 Their lives were lost during the grim time in  
2 Florida's past, but they also crowd with caution to  
3 the present and futue.

4 Our waivered youth shall not suffer cruelty but  
5 be taught with compassion about what is right and  
6 proper. The whip has no place in our society, not  
7 today and hopefully never again.

8 These boys' lives were not lost in vein, for  
9 their story changed the laws of juvenile justice in  
10 Florida, and their monument should be a shining  
11 reminder that decades of darkness cannot hide all  
12 things.

13 May their many candles burn brightly and may  
14 other candles be lit for the boys that may never be  
15 found. Is it better to extend a hand than raise a  
16 fist. Forgiveness is only for the strong.

17 Thank you.

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

19 MR. CLARK: Mrs. Peggy Marx Griffin, widow of  
20 Frank Marx, a White House Boy.

21 MRS. MARX-GRIFFIN: Good afternoon, Governor  
22 Scott and Cabinet. I can only reiterate what everyone  
23 has said.

24 My first thought was maybe to take Dozier and  
25 make it a place for wounded Veterans, because you have

1 a hospital, cafeteria, you know, bunkers, but then I  
2 heard the toxic thing and that's not a good idea.

3 But I guess more important than anything is  
4 please don't leave those children there. Let's find  
5 the rest of them, as many as we can. There are so  
6 many men that remember.

7 I said to someone a little while ago, if you  
8 dropped a dime on a thousand acres, you would never  
9 know where it was, but you could go back in that area  
10 and possibly find it. We have men who remember  
11 digging these graves. We have men who remember seeing  
12 children drug out of cars.

13 Please, do whatever you want to do to Dozier  
14 property, but don't do it until all of these children  
15 are found. Don't leave them there.

16 Thank you.

17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

18 MR. CLARK: Mr. Andrew Puel, White House Boy.

19 MR. PUEL: Governor Scott and Cabinet members,  
20 my name is Andrew Puel and I'm one of the White House  
21 Boys. I've written three books about the Dozier  
22 Reform School with my good friend Roger Keiser, who is  
23 the founder of the White House Boys.

24 Roger wrote the first book about Dozier, which  
25 was entitled, "The White House Boys; an American

1 Tragedy." This book was instrumental in first  
2 exposing the abuse that happened at Dozier.

3 When Roger and I began writing our books, we  
4 began to hear very credible testimony that Dozier  
5 employees may have killed boys at that reform school.  
6 I would like to share three of these testimonies with  
7 you before I make a request from you.

8 I have a notarized statement by Thomas Moore, who  
9 was an inmate at Dozier in 1964. He, Thomas Moore,  
10 worked in the kitchen, which was located next to the  
11 White House. He states that he saw a young black boy  
12 run out of the White House and head towards the woods.  
13 A Dozier employee ran after the boy, and he pulled out  
14 a pistol and he shot the boy. The boy fell to the  
15 ground, and Mr. Moore did not see the boy move after  
16 that. Mr. Moore is a Christian minister in  
17 Jacksonville.

18 The second testimony is by Robert Straley.  
19 Mr. Straley is over here, and he can confirm this; who  
20 was an inmate in Dozier in 1964. Robert worked in the  
21 hospital. One time he was in the linen closet putting  
22 on his white hospital uniform when two guards came to  
23 the room. The linen closet door was closed, but the  
24 door had loovers in it, so Robert could hear what the  
25 guards were saying.

1           The guards were talking about a boy who had run  
2 away from the school several times. The guards said  
3 the boy was an honory kid and everybody was fed up  
4 with him, and they thought they were going to have to  
5 put him out in the swamp.

6           This third testimony here. In February and March  
7 of 2010, a man who was an inmate at Dozier in 1980  
8 began calling Roger Keiser on the phone. The man's  
9 name was Louis, and he told Roger he saw a Dozier  
10 employee punch a boy in the face. The boy went flying  
11 backwards and his head slammed into a car door,  
12 killing the boy, and the Dozier employee then made  
13 Louis bury the body.

14           I have here a redacted document from the FDLE  
15 that was acquired by a Freedom of Information request.  
16 In this document, Louis makes the same statement about  
17 the killing and burial of a boy at Dozier to FBI Agent  
18 Steve Grant.

19           Governor, I do not tell these lurid stories to be  
20 sensational or to embarrass the State of Florida. I  
21 tell these stories because I want to know the truth,  
22 and the only way I know of to find the truth is to  
23 research the Dozier student ledgers that are located  
24 at the State Archives.

25           In Florida, juvenile records where sealed for 50

1 years by state law, and that is why I'm standing  
2 before you today. I am requesting Governor and  
3 Cabinet members, that you find a way for independent  
4 researchers like me to review the sealed Dozier  
5 student ledgers, and I believe that if this request is  
6 not granted there will forever be a cloud of suspicion  
7 hanging over the Dozier Reform School.

8 Thank you.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

10 Mr. Jerry Cooper has asked for an opportunity to  
11 come back to the podium to introduce The White House  
12 Boys who have not had an opportunity to speak or not  
13 in attendance today.

14 Mr. Cooper.

15 MR. COOPER: Thank you, once again, David. I  
16 appreciate that.

17 We have had a lot of the other gentlemen that are  
18 involved in the Dozier situation, again, called The  
19 White House Boys, would have been here, but as you  
20 know and as you can see, I'm old myself, and a lot of  
21 the men, the White House Boys are actually from the  
22 '50s, '60s, basically; a lot of them have passed over  
23 the last three to four years. I am so tired of going  
24 to funerals, and I know my wife is, but you know, it's  
25 just something that since we have come together as a

1 brotherhood that we have to face.

2 We have men that were going to be here. I know  
3 three that ended up over the last two days -- one in  
4 the hospital critical, not expected to make it. I  
5 have another man, a White House Boy in Naples, who  
6 lost his entire home and possessions in the Naples  
7 storms that you may have heard about. I think it was  
8 about three or four days ago. And just, people  
9 getting sick and having to cancel at the last minute  
10 is just -- you know, our way of life at this time.

11 I believe that Roy Connely is here with us today.  
12 Roy, would you hold your hand up? Roy Connely, again,  
13 a White House Boy from the '60s.

14 George Fudge, who is the brother of Charley  
15 Fudge; would you raise your hand, George? Okay.

16 Pastor Jon Gaddey (phonetic,) would you raise  
17 your hand, too? Thank you very much. And of course,  
18 my very close and dear friend, Harley James Denite  
19 (phonetic.) Thank you all very much for listening to  
20 us today and I appreciate your concern with all of the  
21 matters.

22 Thank you, sir.

23 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, sir.

24 MR. CLARK: Mr. Dale Landry, National Association  
25 for the Advancement of Colored People.

1           MR. LANDRY: Governor Scott, Attorney General  
2 Bondi, Chief Atwater and Commissioner Putnam. First,  
3 again, thank you for this opportunity in coming here  
4 and again. And again, thank you for the long road we  
5 traveled, and I say "we have traveled," to get at  
6 where we get at today.

7           The NAACP, what we're here about is a couple of  
8 things. That last slide that Dr. Kimmerle showed,  
9 what are we going to do with Florida's children that  
10 she still has? And we, again, need to come back and  
11 say, we need to look at a place that we can sanctify,  
12 that will be a sanctuary place to hold these remains  
13 until they can be identified. It may be 20 or 30  
14 years until we find them, but it needs to be a place  
15 that's accessible. I keep hearing the term about  
16 proper burial, but I would offer to you to let's give  
17 consideration...

18           The church that's there within the gates, that  
19 church is still operable -- I get them mixed between  
20 north and south side. One is outside of the fence,  
21 but the other one that is operable. Again, we pose,  
22 it has two wings in the back. Let's turn those wings  
23 into a mausoleum that we can put and intern those  
24 remains there, so they can be there to have access to  
25 them, should they come back with families to identify

1       them instead of going in and having to go and dig them  
2       up again from somewhere.

3               So I would pose to you, that would help to pose  
4       as a site to memorialize.   It is an active church,  
5       and we can put it back and I think the community still  
6       uses it and it can still be used.   But it can serve as  
7       a place, as a mausoleum, to hold the remains until  
8       they are identified until such time they can be  
9       returned to the families.

10              And then, there's a couple of other spots that  
11       they had talked about that hopefully the State will  
12       not let go.   We need to keep the White House.   The  
13       White House needs to be a memorial to remember the  
14       horrors that occurred.   But to make sure we never do  
15       them again.

16              And last but not least, I know it's not within  
17       your power, and I think that it's being moved through  
18       right now, I would just ask you-all to reach out and  
19       support the Legislature that are trying to move to get  
20       the funds to pay, because as you're aware, on several  
21       of the remains that have come forward that they have  
22       identified, they have had to go out and raise money in  
23       the public to ask people to donate, when that's a  
24       State's responsibility to re-intern those bodies.

25              And so, I would ask you all to give some support.

1 And on that note, from the NAACP, thank you. Thank  
2 you. Thank you.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

4 MR. CLARK: Mr. Jim Dean, City Manager, City of  
5 Marianna.

6 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good Afternoon.

7 MR. DEAN: Good afternoon, Governor. My name is  
8 Jim Dean. I'm the city manager for the City of  
9 Marianna, Florida.

10 I came here today with a group of civic leaders  
11 and business leaders from our community. I would like  
12 to introduce them, and if they would, raise their hand  
13 or stand up.

14 Former Chairman of the Jackson County Board of  
15 County Commissioners and Chairman, Chuck Lockey  
16 (phonetic.) Commissioner and Mayor, Travis Ephram,  
17 with the City of Marianna; Ricky Miller; Mr. Elmore  
18 Bryant; Keith Williams; Robert Reeve (phonetic); and  
19 Mr. Matthew Fuquay.

20 Our community is here today just to show our  
21 support for the process that the State of Florida is  
22 going through, and also to offer our assistance in any  
23 way that we might assist that brings closure in this  
24 process. Thank you for your time and what you have  
25 done so far.

1           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

2           MR. CLARK: The final speaker is Mr. Elmore  
3 Bryant, a resident of Jackson County.

4           MR. BRYANT: Good afternoon, Governor.

5           Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak.  
6 I'm Elmore Bryant from Marianna, Jackson County, and  
7 our request is that we hopefully, prayfully, that the  
8 land will be given back to Marianna. We will make you  
9 proud of it.

10           I wouldn't be on this trip if I wasn't with a  
11 bunch of men of character. And let me say, so many  
12 people get character mixed up with reputation. These  
13 mens of character, and I can give you a reason why.  
14 We are here to request this land today, because number  
15 one, reputation, people you try to impress people with  
16 who you are. But character is -- I thought children  
17 for 40 years in the public school -- is what's on the  
18 inside; make you do right when nobody is looking.

19           Like us, Governor. I've asked these men, and  
20 I've observed these men. We will make you proud of  
21 what we do with the land in Jackson County.

22           Now, there's some good things. People don't talk  
23 about our businessmen who provide 10 to 12  
24 scholarships for black kids in our community. You  
25 don't read much about the district where we have built

1       36 houses because the City and County, we're on the  
2       same page. Not one, Governor, went in default.

3               Nobody talks about when you come to Marianna, and  
4       you ride out to the federal prison, and you look at  
5       the deeds and see that the little black boy's name is  
6       on the deed because the people of Marianna didn't  
7       throw rocks and didn't quam and respected me as the  
8       first black man in the Panhandle.

9               Governor, and your staff, we need healing. My  
10       first thing will be to say to anybody that those  
11       before my time did wrong, as Martin Luther King said,  
12       "It's never too late to make wrong right." I want to  
13       do that, and my children -- and I raised my children  
14       right. My children are black and white because I  
15       corrected them. I didn't wait for the prison to raise  
16       them.

17               So when you come to Marianna, there are a lot of  
18       good sides. Governor, I even want to invite you to  
19       the West End, so we can fix you a hamburger and talk  
20       like men, because you have done so much for education,  
21       especially for our college debt.

22               Again, thank you for letting me speak, and we  
23       leave here today that those that we have hurt, their  
24       feelings or their families feelings, we're going to  
25       have an upper room prayer, and I'm going to call for

1 the men of these and other 50 more, that we go in the  
2 upper room and pray for those mistakes that our  
3 forefathers made.

4 Thank you again for speaking.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

6 MR. CLARK: That concludes the speakers and the  
7 presentation of the report. They're available for  
8 questions.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. I think the Attorney  
10 General had a question for Dr. Kimmerle.

11 Dr. Kimmerle, if you would come back up?

12 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And first, Governor,  
13 just a statement to all of the gentlemen here today,  
14 that we know you have suffered horrific, unspeakable  
15 atrocities; even worse than what was described here in  
16 our open Cabinet room today.

17 And to you, thank you for being brave enough to  
18 come forward. Thank you for helping us, as a State,  
19 to put this in the past and to go forward with  
20 Marianna County. It is a beautiful county, and go  
21 forward with it and put these atrocities behind us.  
22 And, you are all so incredibly brave. I can't say  
23 enough about all of you and the things that you've  
24 shared with me, and what you've endured, and what your  
25 families have endured.

1           But first, I just want to say the hero in all of  
2           this is Dr. Erin Kimmerle and University of South  
3           Florida, and I just want to applaud her.

4           DR. KIMMERLE: Thank you.

5           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And Governor, I know  
6           there are, I guess, just a few issues out there based  
7           on what everyone has described. And, you know, we're  
8           hearing just different things and different thoughts  
9           from different people.

10          But the first, I guess on the Dozier property,  
11          Dr. Kimmerle, based on -- and you said you  
12          hypothesized, you have to in your work, of course.  
13          Given the science, given the information you have,  
14          given the interviews you've done, given that the  
15          ground penetrating technology that you used, cadaver  
16          dogs, do you believe in your scientific opinion that  
17          the bodies have been recovered on the Dozier property?

18          DR. KIMMERLE: Yeah, and that's a good question.  
19          I think where maybe some of the confusion has come, is  
20          that along the way, some people have asked us, "Can  
21          you certify that there are no more burials in this  
22          space?" And that's not something we can ever do given  
23          the size and the scope of what we're talking about.

24          But what we can say is that every piece of  
25          information that we've come across -- witnesses,

1 historic records, from the land formation  
2 themselves -- we've investigated by actually digging  
3 in those areas; doing remote sensing and digging in  
4 those areas and have not found additional burials.

5 What we put together is called a missing persons  
6 list. This is a list of who we think is buried there.  
7 That list doesn't actually have enough names for the  
8 remains that we found. Now, that discrepancy could be  
9 that, for example, in 1918 there was a flu epidemic  
10 and the State did an investigation that said many more  
11 boys died, up to 11 more died and were buried, but it  
12 didn't list their names. So we can only search for  
13 and identify names for. Whether that's the  
14 discrepancy or not, I don't know. There was so many  
15 incidences like that through history.

16 And really, the school repeatedly would not  
17 report back to the State all of the deaths that  
18 occurred, so that's where you get a lot of this  
19 confusion. But we feel our field work is done. We  
20 feel we have exhausted everything we can do in terms  
21 of looking for additional burials. If new information  
22 came forward, then that may be worth looking at, but I  
23 feel like we've been really thorough and we have done  
24 everything that we have been available for us to look.

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And that was the first

1 category.

2 And then the second category is -- well, first of  
3 all, 51 remains, body remains, are now at University  
4 of South Florida. So all of the bodies, the remains  
5 are at USF, so the next question that we need to  
6 discuss is what happens to those remains. And to go  
7 back to what one of the gentleman said, I  
8 whole-heartedly support -- I think it's Mr. Landry --  
9 it's \$7,000 to bury each of these children. And, yes,  
10 I think they all deserve a proper burial, but I guess  
11 we have decide ultimately where the burial should be.  
12 I've heard some people say they want them buried back  
13 at Dozier. I have heard some say they wouldn't want  
14 their family members back there for anything in the  
15 world. So those -- these are just outstanding  
16 questions that we're going to have to address.

17 And the last thing, of course, is what happens to  
18 Dozier property next. And something that I did not  
19 learn until this morning, and we spoke on the break,  
20 is all of the hazardous materials that Dr. Kimmerle  
21 has recovered. And, you know, it was unintended of  
22 course, but thank goodness you discovered those. And  
23 you were telling me you found chunks of asbestos,  
24 right?

25 DR. KIMMERLE: Yeah. In the area we were

1        escavating, particularly where the dormitory had  
2        burned down, there was asbestos as part of that and  
3        other chemical testing that we did, that Dr. Wells did  
4        for prospection.

5                And we did what's called chemical isotope  
6        testing, and that is something that is meant to help  
7        identify children, and there were just very high  
8        levels of lead and other contaminants, and some of  
9        that could be that when they made the handmade coffins  
10       they made on campus, they painted them and the lead  
11       paint seaped down and you have a contamination due to  
12       that decomposition. So that's something we're  
13       actually testing a little more to rule out, but our  
14       advice would be just for qualified people to look into  
15       that more carefully.

16               ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And that would be just  
17       in the area surrounding the Dozier campus, correct?

18               DR. KIMMERLE: Well, we found -- in the areas  
19       that we found, as we looked, was both in the area  
20       where the dormitory burned down, on the south  
21       property, as well as the Boot Hill area and the  
22       surrounding woods and land around that area.

23               Because we did -- we looked for control samples  
24       further out and kept going out and couldn't find clean  
25       samples, so...

1           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Thank you again,  
2           Dr. Kimmerle.

3           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

4           COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Secretary Steverson, was  
5           there a Phase 1 done during the last round of  
6           conversations about people bidding on it?

7           MR. CLARK: Commissioner, David Clark. No, sir,  
8           there was not.

9           When we sell the commercial properties, many  
10          times there is a concern of contamination issues, so  
11          we put the burden of proof on the potential buyer  
12          because we don't want to step in the shoes of  
13          providing those reports, and if we don't catch it all,  
14          then the State takes on that liability. So there was  
15          not a Phase 1 ESA done.

16          COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Wasn't one done at all, or  
17          wasn't one done by the State? The bidders didn't do  
18          one either?

19          MR. CLARK: We had two bidders, and those bids  
20          were eventually sealed by an injunction from the  
21          Barnardo family, so that the process never commenced  
22          to that point.

23          COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Okay, so that's certainly  
24          something within our purview -- our menu of options.

25          MR. CLARK: Yes, sir.

1           COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: I think really, as Attorney  
2           General laid out, some important things, how to store  
3           and ultimately inter the remains. And obviously,  
4           there's appropriately very strong feelings about  
5           whether they should or should not be on-site in  
6           Jackson County. And I think that obviously where  
7           they're identified and claimed by the family, that's  
8           their decision, but those that are not claimed by the  
9           family, we have a big decision to make.

10           Secondly, the making sure that all of the records  
11           and archives of Dr. Kimmerle's work in all of this, is  
12           archived, for future technological developments and  
13           other things that may illuminating this effort.

14           And then, finally, how do we memorialize what's  
15           gone on there. And I think that that begins very  
16           simply, and I don't think it takes an act of  
17           Legislature to say what needs saying, which is, I'm  
18           very sorry for what these men and these generations of  
19           boys endured while Wards of the State. It was  
20           unconscionable, and the lessons that we should take  
21           from this.

22           Because of your courage in bringing it forward  
23           and not letting it be swept under the rug and not  
24           letting it be surplused away and forgotten about, is  
25           going to serve future generations of boys and girls,

1 and so, thank you for that. And I'm sorry that you  
2 are going through that position.

3 And I think it is appropriate that we memorialize  
4 in some form what goes on there. I don't think we're  
5 going to resolve that today. I don't think there's an  
6 expectation that we fix that today. I think we need  
7 to put the right people in a room that needs to  
8 include Marianna. It needs to include Jackson County.  
9 It needs to include White House Boys representatives.  
10 It needs to include Department of State, Department of  
11 Environmental Protection.

12 Because while there is, I think -- just one  
13 opinion of four -- very definitely a need to remember  
14 and honor these victims, you also have an opportunity  
15 to heal with that property, by doing other things, and  
16 that could be any number of things. There have been  
17 some great ideas that have been thrown out that  
18 involve young people, that involve veterans, that  
19 involve parks, that involve education, and I think we  
20 ought to whittle that down.

21 This is a large parcel and leaving it locked up  
22 with a high fence and a DJJ security guard is not an  
23 acceptable status quo. You've got asbestos buildings  
24 that are falling down. You've got wooden buildings  
25 there that are falling down. You've got newer

1 buildings that are not falling down, but they will be  
2 soon, from neglect, which would be terrible additional  
3 waste and tragedy.

4 We've got a magnificent church building on there  
5 that can be used to memorialize this and turn all of  
6 our eyes heavenward. There is a newer school facility  
7 there, and there is a magnificent recreational  
8 facility there; that gymnasium that was built with the  
9 hands of the boys who were there, would be a crime for  
10 it to fall down when it could be used to make new  
11 memories, and pleasant memories, and build character.  
12 As the Mayor said, for future individuals, whether  
13 they're individuals from that community or around the  
14 State, I'm not prepared to answer that today.

15 But the status quo is just not an option. I  
16 mean, it would make it worse for it to turn into a  
17 characature of itself: Some haunted, juvenile prison  
18 that just breeds more rumors and mythology and things  
19 as people drive by and see the kudzu take back over.  
20 I don't think that's what any of us want. I think we  
21 want to begin the healing process, and that means  
22 acknowledging the horror, memorializing the victims,  
23 and finding a way to heal moving forward, and I  
24 believe we can put the right folks together who can  
25 lay out that plan.

1           And so, Governor, I think the Attorney General  
2 touched on those issues -- the archiving issue, the  
3 interment of the remains, and then memorializing the  
4 site and planning for some portion of that site and  
5 its activities moving forward to begin that healing  
6 process. Those would be my thoughts on that.

7           But it begins with an apology, and I apologize.

8           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Gentlemen, what  
9 Commissioner Putnam just said to everyone in this room  
10 can only be accomplished by all of you working  
11 together. You've got to all work together. I know  
12 the gentlemen in the back of the room want to help,  
13 and certainly the gentlemen in the front of the room  
14 want closure, and so we've got to come together and  
15 work together.

16           Thank you.

17           CFO ATWATER: Yeah, Governor, thank you. I just  
18 have one question for Dr. Kimmerle, if you wouldn't  
19 mind, Dr. Kimmerle.

20           The Attorney General has mentioned it, everyone  
21 has mentioned it, and I think with the deepest of  
22 gratitude, thank you. I'll come back to that, but I  
23 just would like to be sure, your team, the  
24 thoroughness -- again, I'll come back to it -- but is  
25 there anything that you still need access to; anything

1       that would be of more help to you? Anything that was  
2       not made available to you to have helped us reach the  
3       point we're at today?

4             DR. KIMMERLE: I think that we've concluded  
5       everything we need on-site. There were records that  
6       someone mentioned that at the point at which they  
7       become public record, and some have been sealed in the  
8       1960s, we have been working recently with the FDLI  
9       investigators who are now relooking at some of this  
10      issue, and I have to say, they have been incredibly  
11      helpful and supportive and have helped with also  
12      getting family DNA samples and tracking down some  
13      historic family information.

14            So, it may be if they can get access and we can  
15      continue to work together, that could be -- that would  
16      be one way to do it, but that's the one spot that  
17      we've run into the challenges is the ledgers that  
18      aren't available after 1960, thereabout, and the  
19      original papers from the John's Committee, also, in  
20      the State Archives has photocopies but we were  
21      interested in looking at original documents, if  
22      possible.

23            CFO ATWATER: Okay. Very good, very good.

24            ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And CFO, I believe, I  
25      believe Sergeant Department of Law Enforcement will be

1 handling that portion of it in their investigation.

2 And we also need to thank Sheriff David Gee and  
3 the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office who  
4 volunteered and gave their time to come up to that  
5 area with Dr. Kimmerle and her staff to help make this  
6 possible.

7 DR. KIMMERLE: Yeah, thank you. Master Detective  
8 Greg Thomas is here, and he's been the one personally  
9 who has gone all over the state, meeting families,  
10 checking on their genealogies, getting samples, and  
11 Sheriff David Gee has put many people and resources on  
12 this and we could not have done that without their  
13 help. And I believe as we continue to make these last  
14 matches and hopefully get some of those final  
15 identifications made, I know they are very committed  
16 to helping. And like I say, we are working with FDLE  
17 now so we see our research and field work is done, but  
18 like I say, we're still very committed to these  
19 families and would like to continue to see the  
20 process, too, where we can meet as many IDs as  
21 possible and work with the families in those  
22 reburials, because it's just been very important to  
23 them and it becomes very personally important to us.  
24 And it's something we want to document, and that  
25 they've asked us to document, which is what we're

1       doing through the Archive. We're doing through a  
2       documentary that's following the stories of five  
3       particular families, and maybe there will be some  
4       other ways that this can also be archived and looked  
5       at.

6               CFO ATWATER: I might, just to share, I met with  
7       the leadership of the Funeral Home Association of  
8       Florida yesterday and told them of the situation we  
9       were in, and to a person in that room, they said, "Let  
10      us have an opportunity to do what we need to do, to be  
11      sure we can figure out a way to spread that burden and  
12      pick up that cost?"

13              DR. KIMMERLE: Okay.

14              CFO ATWATER: So I think you're going to find  
15      that they just voluntarily said, "Let us help."

16              DR. KIMMERLE: That's wonderful. And that's  
17      really been the sentiment, because how do you get more  
18      than a 100 people from more than 60 agencies to  
19      volunteer over a four-year period? That has really  
20      been the spirit of, I think, everybody that learns  
21      about this.

22              Tom Dobey (phonetic) runs a funeral home in Pasco  
23      and did provide transportation and caskets to two of  
24      the families. So he actually came to USF and brought  
25      the remains up to Quincy, and it's the way of handling

1 the remains with such respect and it meant everything,  
2 I think, to those families to have that sort of the  
3 ceremony aspect as part of it.

4 CFO ATWATER: So how about from your experiences,  
5 what more could we do -- and if you need time to think  
6 about it, that's fine -- to help communicate even more  
7 broadly -- and you've worked very hard and it's all  
8 very genuine on how to raise awareness to, again,  
9 under the mission you've been under, so a family would  
10 know this was going on? So many families would not  
11 know. They may have, you know, not been, you know,  
12 following this of recency and what has happened of  
13 recent. They may have moved over the years.

14 Is there anything else that you can say to us or  
15 would like to then present to us at some point, by our  
16 experiences that you have been a part of or have read  
17 about by colleagues, that initiatives that were  
18 undertaken to figure out how to make the community or  
19 broader communities more aware so that someone knows  
20 to come in and help us do the match; a family would  
21 know?

22 DR. KIMMERLE: That's a great point because what  
23 we have find as we have had identifications, and  
24 that's been in the public and there's been media  
25 around that, it has led new people to contact us. And

1 in fact, one of the most recent identifications we  
2 made is a boy named Lloyd Dutton, and his family today  
3 lives in Washington D.C.. And they had followed it  
4 sort of in the paper and said, "Wow, this is something  
5 we want to reach out on." So I think you're right and  
6 that's a great way to continue to reach people.

7 CFO ATWATER: I hope you would then, Doctor,  
8 consider that for a period of time with other  
9 colleagues where these may be again -- not the exact  
10 similar story, hopefully -- but occasions where  
11 you-all have used with partners ways to communicate  
12 and get the word out that we may not have yet tried.  
13 I hope you would do that.

14 DR. KIMMERLE: We will, thank you.

15 CFO ATWATER: Governor, I would just like to say,  
16 just as everyone has said and maybe some obvious -- to  
17 Dr. Kimmerle and your entire team, we had a chance to  
18 see it and others are only learning of the story, but  
19 when you took on this responsibility, the care that  
20 you gave it, I just think becomes of the great asset  
21 of the State of Florida. It was not a vendor who  
22 procured a contract to perform a unique task in any  
23 period of time. The care that you gave and helped us  
24 expand our own thought process, and now help us into  
25 the future do right, was because of the manner by

1       which you pursued this entire mission that you were  
2       under.

3               So you know, we can become cynical sometimes in  
4       this environment that people see, Well, the government  
5       is going to be spending more money on X, or more money  
6       on Y, and we'll get in there and we'll get a piece of  
7       it.

8               You answered a call and with the most genuine  
9       dedication to the dignity of the story of the  
10       individuals that you would never meet -- although some  
11       of you have now -- but certainly the families you may  
12       never know, what a gift. And from you all of us,  
13       again, thank you.

14              Then I would just like to add, I think a couple  
15       of profound things have happened today, because none  
16       of us could imagine being in the shoes of the  
17       gentlemen that have come and maybe waited so long for  
18       an occasion to speak to their Governor. I can only  
19       imagine what you wanted to say for a long time. Think  
20       about this, the horrors you saw, the pain you've  
21       endured, the indignity that you felt and witnessed;  
22       that if you had known that some day you would have a  
23       microphone standing by the Governor of the State and  
24       the Cabinet, what would you have said?

25              But across time, now, not one of you spoke to a

1 particular unique moment of pain or anguish that you  
2 suffered. Each of your comments directed to us today  
3 were about doing right by the young boys who are not  
4 here any longer. I mean, not -- no one raised their  
5 voice, no one placed the anger towards us, and no one  
6 spoke of what they experienced, the injustice they  
7 experienced, but it was "do right by the young boys."

8 I don't think we could have ever imagined the  
9 kind of -- it's more than good will. It's unique  
10 spirit of humility -- and what I suspect you know, you  
11 offered us, was you gave us the green light to heal.  
12 You have said it's time, and you have spoken  
13 unselfishly by those that you knew by name or maybe  
14 just by a companion. And I just cannot imagine,  
15 again, a greater gift to the State of Florida than  
16 what you have shown today, to be so selfless, when you  
17 had this moment after all of these years that you  
18 would speak to somebody else.

19 And then, I would just like to say from the  
20 community of Marianna that came, to thank you; that  
21 you have stood up and said, "There are things about  
22 our past we are not proud of, but you give us a chance  
23 and we are going to make you proud again."

24 And as mentioned by everyone, what a spectacular  
25 beautiful place Jackson County and Marianna are. The

1       incredible character that was already spoken about by  
2       your Mayor, and the people and what they have created,  
3       built and done, and they came here today to say, "We  
4       have made mistakes and we will make you proud."

5             And, again, what a gift to all of us that hand  
6       that reaches out.

7             I would say to Dale, you showed me, you walked  
8       the halls, we walked the fields, we stood among the  
9       crosses. We saw the gym. We stood in the White  
10      House. And, that you stand up today and say, "Hey,  
11      let's talk about where this goes from here forward."  
12      That's, again, that's the healing that's taking place.

13            Dr. Jackson, I thought you put it eloquently.  
14      There are archives up here, but they are not silent  
15      and they speak, and what an opportunity for us to be  
16      sure now. As is these gentlemen have said, if they  
17      know the sound of the laughter that once was around  
18      each one of those artifacts, the dreams, the  
19      aspirations. And what an obligation we have that this  
20      becomes, not a learning moment, but it's a part of our  
21      history we learn from now for all times.

22            And I think as we think about -- and again, as an  
23      item of our agenda to hear the findings that now we  
24      over time must contemplate, what are the action items  
25      that must come and what are the timing of those, but I

1 can't imagine that we could become more informed as to  
2 the path and do right than what each of you brought to  
3 discussion today, and your courage to have brought it  
4 today for so many of you.

5 So Governor, to you, to the Attorney General, to  
6 the Commissioner, who all have spoke to the importance  
7 of this, that it never ever, ever, ever be done out of  
8 the light of day in a back room. Transparency is to  
9 be the way that the story would have to be told, and  
10 only then could all of us imagine some day in this  
11 very place that we have all visited, there will be the  
12 sound of aspirations and laughter and learning; that's  
13 going to be that we will all know we did our part.

14 Thank you, Governor. I appreciate it.

15 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks. First, I'm proud of the  
16 fact the State shut down Dozier. We wish the things  
17 that happened in Dozier never happened.

18 For everybody that spoke today, for all of the  
19 individuals who have been in Dozier, thanks for your  
20 how you handled yourself. I wish it never happened.  
21 I can't imagine, none of us can, and we hope it never  
22 happens again to anybody in our society. Everybody at  
23 USF, Dr. Kimmerle, Dr. Wells, and Dr. Jackson, thank  
24 you for what you've done.

25 If you look at the group that's here today, you

1 can see that this is a group that is going to work  
2 together to make sure the right thing happens; whether  
3 it's the county, the city, the state, I know the  
4 individuals that have been impacted by this. You can  
5 see that in this room, people want to do the right  
6 thing so it's a very good day for our State because  
7 you see we're heading in the right direction but we  
8 still have more to do.

9 So thanks everybody for coming. Thank you, Jon.

10 SECRETARY STEVERSON: And Governor, the  
11 Department stands ready to assist the state as you're  
12 environmental agency with any of the issues that were  
13 raised in the report, and we stand ready to move  
14 forward as your realtor for the Board at the Board's  
15 direction. That concludes the Board's agenda.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you.

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2 DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE

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4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next, I would like to recognize  
5 Ben Watkins with the Division of Bond Finance.

6 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Good afternoon, Governor and  
7 Cabinet.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Do you want to go ahead and get  
9 started? Go ahead.

10 So is there a motion? First thing we have is the  
11 minutes.

12 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Governor, if I could, item  
13 number one is approval of the minutes of the  
14 December 8th meeting.

15 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the item?

16 CFO ATWATER: So moved.

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second. Is that SBA?

18 GOVERNOR SCOTT: No.

19 Any comments or objections? Hearing none, the  
20 motion carries.

21 Item number two?

22 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Item number two is a report of  
23 award on the competitive sale of 78.7 million in  
24 Florida Forever Refunding Bonds.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the item?

1           DIRECTOR WATKINS:  -- sold at a true interest  
2           cost of approximately 1.98 percent.  That allowed us  
3           to reduce the interest rate from 4.74 percent to 1.98  
4           percent, generating gross debt savings of \$13.4  
5           million, present value savings of 12 -- or 13.3  
6           percent of the principal amount of the refunded bonds.

7           GOVERNOR SCOTT:  Let's go ahead and do two,  
8           three, and four.  Is there a motion on two, three and  
9           four?

10          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI:  So moved.

11          GOVERNOR SCOTT:  Is there a second?

12          CFO ATWATER:  Second.

13          GOVERNOR SCOTT:  Any comments or objections?  
14          Hearing none, the motion carries.

15          DIRECTOR WATKINS:  Item Number 5, Governor, is  
16          the performance metrics and my performance evaluation.  
17          We had developed a form with objective performance  
18          measures, as well as subjective performance measures,  
19          which had been provided to your offices.

20                 On the objective performance measures the --  
21          there are three metrics:  One is basically savings on  
22          the present value, savings on refundings; the second  
23          is the new money sales that are less than the  
24          benchmark interest rate scale; and the last is  
25          maintaining and enhancing rates.  And so, on the

1        refunding front, we have executed in calendar year  
2        '15/'14 transactions totalling \$3.3 billion;  
3        generating gross debt service savings of \$591 million  
4        or present value savings of 365 million.

5                So the scores from the objective performance  
6        metrics have been completed on a form, and I have  
7        passed out a form and then we have subjective measures  
8        to be used as well to guide or aid in the discussion  
9        of my performance. And if I could, Governor, collect  
10       those for those that have used those, I would be happy  
11       to do some quick math just to let you guys know from a  
12       performance standpoint what the ranking has been to  
13       help facilitate discussion and get feedback from you  
14       all in terms of...

15               GOVERNOR SCOTT: Pardon. Has everyone used the  
16       forms?

17               ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I have mine to hand in.

18               COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: I've got mine.

19               ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Did your check our  
20       homework, Governor?

21               CFO ATWATER: There you go.

22               COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So you're the guinea pig;  
23       you're the first one to go through this, right?

24               DIRECTOR WATKINS: Yes, sir.

25               CFO ATWATER: Are you good with numbers, Ben?

1           COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: That's going to require a  
2 lot of calculating quick. Suffice it to say --

3           GOVERNOR SCOTT: It would be a bad week for Ash  
4 to get a performance. Do you -- Ben, do you want to  
5 calculate those now?

6           DIRECTOR WATKINS: I was going to, Governor, but  
7 the averages haven't been included, so it's going to  
8 take a little while. I was hopeful that it had been  
9 carried to the bottom and said, "Here's your average  
10 score on it," and then I could do the math on three  
11 numbers and do the division and inform this board on  
12 where we are. In terms of performance, I'm  
13 comfortable saying --

14          GOVERNOR SCOTT: Why don't we do this? Let's  
15 have Ash do his, and you probably have time to run the  
16 numbers real quick?

17          DIRECTOR WATKINS: Okay.

18          ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I don't think it will  
19 take you long.

20          COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: It's actually part of the  
21 debt.

22          CFO ATWATER: Right.

23          GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. We'll bring him back  
24 up. Thank you, sir.

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2 DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE

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4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next, we would like to recognize  
5 Ash Williams with the State Board of Administration.

6 Well, times are easier, right, Ash?

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Commissioner Putnam  
8 has it, I'm deeply relieved not to be getting  
9 evaluated right now.

10 Now, on that happy subject, where the markets  
11 are, suffice it to say, they've been about as ugly as  
12 anything I've seen in my career for the beginning of  
13 the year. If we look at the fiscal year-to-dates  
14 through last night's close, Florida Retirement System  
15 Trust Fund is down 7.27 percent. That's 126 basis  
16 points ahead of target; nonetheless, it's 14.1 billion  
17 dollars below where we started the fiscal year.  
18 That's net of distributions of roughly four billion,  
19 so it's not all market pain.

20 And I guess what I would offer on that, is  
21 there's no question there's been extraordinary misery  
22 here, but there's got to be a bottom somewhere. And  
23 if you look at where we are and look at all of our  
24 asset classes, there's only really one that's down and  
25 that's global equity. Every other asset class is up

1       which is exactly the reason you would diversify, and  
2       it's serving us well. And if you sort of try and call  
3       the bottom for where things are and you have to ask  
4       yourself the question, In the US, is the collective  
5       value of the private businesses that are publically  
6       traded in the United States -- however many trillions  
7       of less dollars than they were today on the 31st of  
8       December or the 1st of November -- I think the answer  
9       is no, you can't really do that math and justify it.

10           We still have the rule of law. We still have the  
11       strongest currency in the world. I don't accept for a  
12       moment that US equity values or global equity values  
13       are permanently impaired. Money has to go somewhere.

14           There are a lot of things shaking out, but  
15       commonly, bottoms are made when there's unbridled  
16       capitulation and people are scared and they're just  
17       sellers, no matter what. That's usually marked by  
18       several things. First of all, selling and declines  
19       become uniform against all segments of the US market,  
20       all sectors of the SNP 500. They also become pretty  
21       much uniform; correlations of one across global equity  
22       markets and ultimately across commodities and bonds as  
23       well.

24           Every one of those things is happening now, so I  
25       think we're closer to a bottom than anything else, and

1 that's why you have investment policy. That's why you  
2 rebalance. That's why you have things that work well  
3 when other things are going badly, et cetera. So  
4 that's why we have institutional discipline and we're  
5 following it, so I think over the fullness of time,  
6 we'll be fine.

7 Item 1. Request approval of the minutes of the  
8 November 10, 2015, and December 8, 2015, meetings.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the item?

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

12 CFO ATWATER: Second.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

14 Hearing none, the motion carries.

15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Thank you.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Let's do two and three together.

17 Is there a motion on items two and three?

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

19 CFO ATWATER: Second.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

21 Hearing none, the motion carries.

22 Let's go on to Item 4.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Thank you. Request

24 approval of the reappointment of Mr. Gary Went

25 (phonetic) to the Investment Advisory Council.

1 CFO ATWATER: So moved.

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

4 Hearing none, the motion carries.

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Thank you. Item 5,  
6 request approval of a draft letter certifying the  
7 trustees have reviewed the Auditor General's annual  
8 financial audit and acted on any findings as  
9 necessary. There weren't any material deficiencies  
10 identified in the Auditor General's work.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

12 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

13 CFO ATWATER: Second.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

15 Hearing none, the motion carries.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Thank you.

17 Item 6, request approval and authority to file a  
18 notice of proposed rule for the Florida Hurricane  
19 Catastrophe Fund. These are the insurer reporting  
20 requirements, and essentially, we have two substantive  
21 changes here: One, make certain provisions that the  
22 reporting requirements are more consistent with best  
23 practice and the private sector; the other brings us  
24 in compliance with an administrative finding relating  
25 to the capture of certain data in a prior year.

1           GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Is there a motion on  
2 the item?

3           ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

4           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

5           CFO ATWATER: Second.

6           GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

7           Hearing none, the motion carries. All right.

8           So we'll go onto finance.

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2 STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION FINANCE CORPORATION

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4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Excellent. So --

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: I'll do it for you.

6 Item 1, is there a motion?

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

9 Hearing none, the motion carries.

10 Item 2, is there a motion?

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

12 CFO ATWATER: Second.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

14 Hearing none, the motion carries.

15 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: We don't need you, Ash.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Now, we'll see how good Ben is.

17 Ben, you're not done.

18 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Almost, Governor.

19 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Ash.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Take care.

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Ash, what's going to happen to

22 interest rates?

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Not going anywhere

24 fast is my guess.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: No.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: And I would say one  
2 other thing. If you look at current sampling of  
3 opinion, the probability of the fed fullfilling their  
4 own expectations for the number of increases this year  
5 is down to one percent.

6 GOVERNOR SCOTT: What did they say, three or four  
7 this year?

8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAMS: Four was the  
9 original comment. And if you look at Droggy's  
10 comments this morning, the European Central Bank, in  
11 which he said we need to reexamine; weakness is  
12 clearly present. We need to be accommodating, and he  
13 again reiterated what he said some months ago, which  
14 is we will do whatever is necessary to provide the  
15 liquidity to retain stability, et cetera, et cetera,  
16 and markets are like that.

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2 DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE

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4 (Continued)

5 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Governor, as a follow on to  
6 that in terms of fixed income market.

7 So notwithstanding the lift-off last week because  
8 of developments in the global markets price of oil not  
9 meeting inflationary targets from the feds standpoint,  
10 speculation on the street now is there's not going to  
11 be -- at first they talked about the pace of  
12 increases, and now they're talking about maybe no  
13 increases for 2016 from the feds. So, you know, it  
14 remains to be seen.

15 The strategists and alleged experts continue to  
16 be confounded about where rates are going and that's  
17 where discipline pays, and so our discipline has been  
18 to execute transactions as they are in the money and  
19 meet our threshold savings level, so consequently it  
20 served as well. We were in the market last week,  
21 Peter Antonacci (phonetic) asked us of the execution  
22 of \$400 million refunding for the water management  
23 district, which we worked over the holidays to have it  
24 ready and have the papers on the shelf, with the  
25 expectation of coming back and taking advantage of

1 market conditions early in January. And we were able  
2 to do that with refunding for the water management  
3 district last week, and we were in the Turnpike this  
4 week. So interest rates are likely to stay low for a  
5 while.

6 Back to performance evaluations. I've had an  
7 opportunity to do the math, and I really appreciate  
8 you guys taking the time to complete the form, and I'm  
9 certainly willing -- more than willing to take  
10 feedback from you all, any time. Obviously, the score  
11 and average score of the subjective evaluation is  
12 4.84, so anything above 4.6, according to the scale is  
13 significantly exceeds expectation, so I'm thankful for  
14 that.

15 Not surprising, but certainly willing to take  
16 input at any time. The valuable part of this exercise  
17 from my perspective is that it allowed for  
18 self-reflection to set goals, objectives, and  
19 priorities, and lay those out in a very formal way, so  
20 that's what's been done in terms of developing the  
21 form, and so I appreciate you all take the time to do  
22 your part in providing subjective performance  
23 evaluations. So that's where we are on the completion  
24 of the evaluation process.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you. You've done a great

1 job. So does anyone want to make a motion?

2 CFO ATWATER: Governor, I would. I would like us  
3 to maybe visit a conversation on compensation. I  
4 would like to put it in the form of a motion but  
5 having (inaudible) I would rather have a conversation  
6 for that, if you're okay with the motion.

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: There's no reason we can't; it  
8 doesn't mean we can do it.

9 CFO ATWATER: I'm familiar with that. So what I  
10 would like to share with you though is, there is no  
11 peer from the position that I --

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Because he has no peer.

13 CFO ATWATER: Frankly, I would say he has no peer  
14 in my opinion. I don't think there's a person that  
15 serves his role, that works with partners and  
16 citizens, and CAT funds, and in the dynamics of all of  
17 the management districts and universities like he  
18 does; uniquely by himself, but his team does.

19 But what we did look at, Governor, if you will  
20 recall we do have senior investment officers within  
21 the SBA. Their range is 176 at the low, 220 at the  
22 high. And my recollection is, first off, I think the  
23 numbers spoke for themselves 4.84 is subjective and  
24 4.66 is objective.

25 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Combined together, it's 4.84.

1 CFO ATWATER: 4.84. That speaks to all of us  
2 having the opinion about outstanding performance that  
3 I would like to recommend that if we would consider  
4 putting the motion a 10 percent salary increase that  
5 would take the position from 183 to 201,300; that puts  
6 us still thousands of dollars below the median salary  
7 of our senior investment officers, and I would like to  
8 lay that before the board to consider.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Do we want to discuss  
11 this now?

12 CFO ATWATER: Sure, sure.

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I would have no  
14 objection on it to 210, given that what the money  
15 managers make at SBA.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Commissioner?

17 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: This is one of those issues  
18 if we walk out the door, we would be have the same  
19 conversation we were just having about insurance. And  
20 we're taking tremendous advantage of knowing if we had  
21 to fill this vacancy, I think in fairness, what it  
22 would cost to move in and treat Ben the next way we're  
23 going to treat -- (inaudible.)

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So there's a motion, existing  
25 motion we need to call. So you have a motion on the

1 table?

2 CFO ATWATER: What I might do and let me just, to  
3 be in the conversation, I was trying to work with the  
4 number of a 10 percent range, knowing that's a  
5 conversation. We're looking for all employees every  
6 year and trying to get this position -- and certainly  
7 a person of 25 years, I believe --

8 DIRECTOR WATKINS: I thought it was going to be,  
9 too. And it's north of 20.

10 CFO ATWATER: North of 20. That I would -- I was  
11 aiming to see if we could get a good midpoint of the  
12 current senior investment officers. If I'm reading  
13 the Attorney General, I share that opinion that the  
14 Veteran status and the extraordinary reputation that  
15 Mr. Watkins holds among the regular agency leaders  
16 across the country, and what he's done for our water  
17 management system, university system, and for us, I  
18 would be pleased to amend the motion to set the salary  
19 for the position at 210,000.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Okay. Is there a second?

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

22 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Any comments or  
23 objections? Hearing none, the motion carries.

24 Thank you, Ben.

25 DIRECTOR WATKINS: Thank you all very much. And

1        what means more than anything is the opportunity to  
2        serve and support in the leadership that you all have  
3        provided me during my tenure here. This is not  
4        something I do for the money. If I was doing it for  
5        the money, I would be making a big mistake.

6                So it's a pleasure to serve, so thank you very  
7        much. I appreciate the confidence and the support  
8        that y'all have provided.

9                GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Ben.

10               That concludes today's meeting. Our next meeting  
11        is Thursday, February 4, hosted by Commissioner of  
12        Agriculture at the great state fairgrounds in Tampa.

13               (Off of the record at 2:50 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)  
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, Yvonne LaFlamme, Florida Professional Reporter  
and Notary Public, certify that I was authorized to and  
did stenographically report the foregoing proceeding; and  
that the transcript is a true and complete record of my  
stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not a relative,  
employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor  
am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'  
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I  
financially interested in the outcome of this case.

Dated this 9th day of FEBRUARY 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Yvonne LaFlamme, FPR  
Court Reporter  
Notary Public  
State of Florida at Large



