IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 16TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 4.012

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IN RE: FORFEITURE AND DISPOSAL OF ILLEGALLY TAKEN FISH AND WILDLIFE

Filed and Recorded in Official Records of MONROE COUNTY KEVIN MADOK, CPA

WHEREAS, the law enforcement officers of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, as well as certified law enforcement officers of other law enforcement agencies in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit (collectively "officers"), must occasionally seize living and dead wildlife, freshwater fish and saltwater fish in the course of their duties to enforce the provisions of Chapter 379, Florida Statutes and the associated rules of the Florida Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, it is more consistent with the officers' mission to return living wildlife, freshwater fish and saltwater fish to the habitat unharmed; and

WHEREAS, it is more economical, practical and desirable to promptly dispose of dead wildlife, freshwater fish and saltwater fish instead of storing it during the pendency of prosecutions; and

WHEREAS, section 379.388(1), Florida Statutes permits, in accordance with a court order, the forfeiture and disposal of wildlife, freshwater fish and saltwater fish seized under the authority of Chapter 379, Florida Statutes, any other chapter or the rules of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, prior to the conviction of the offender(s);

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that when an arrest is made pursuant to statutory authority and wildlife, freshwater fish or saltwater fish is seized, the law enforcement agency in possession is authorized to dispose of it immediately, or as soon as practicable, in accordance with section 379.338(1), Florida Statutes and the associated rules of the Florida Administrative Code.

Administrative Order 4.009/07-1, Use of Photographs and/or Documentation of contraband Seized by Florida Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement Officers as Evidence in the Prosecution of Offenders, is hereby rescinded in its entirety upon execution below.

DONE AND ORDERED at Key West, Monroe County, Florida this **23** day of June, 2019.

Ionorable Mark H. Jones

Chief Judge