



JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

[www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com)  
850-488-7146  
850-487-0801 fax

April 20, 2006

Honorable Mark A. Ober  
State Attorney, 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
800 East Kennedy Boulevard  
Tampa, Florida 33602-4199

RE: Executive Order 06-36  
Death of Martin Lee Anderson

Dear Mr. Ober:

I appreciate the careful consideration you are giving to your investigation into the death of Martin Lee Anderson. As I have said on other occasions, this is a challenging investigation, made more so by the heightened level of scrutiny it is receiving. I also know you share with me great sympathy for Martin's family as they endure this difficult process and await confirmation as to the cause of Martin's death. As you move forward with your investigation, there are a number of items that deserve your consideration.

In compliance with my executive order, you have asked Dr. Adams to review the findings of Dr. Seibert. My office has received from members of the legislature and the public documentation relating to other examinations conducted by Dr. Seibert, which I am passing on to you in the event that it is relevant to your work on this case.

I have been informed that your predecessor on this case, Steve Meadows, State Attorney of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, may have deleted e-mails from January and February of this year from his office computer, which dates overlap with the events under investigation by your office. As I am sure you are aware, these e-mails are public records as defined by Florida law, and public officials have a legal duty to retain such documents. Although we do not know the content of the deleted e-mails, e-mails pertaining to the death of Martin Lee Anderson could hold valuable investigative information. I ask you to include in your investigation a thorough look at the circumstances culminating in the loss of these public records and to determine whether or not they contained any information that could be relevant to your investigation. I also request that efforts be made to retrieve these e-mails to determine their origin and contents.



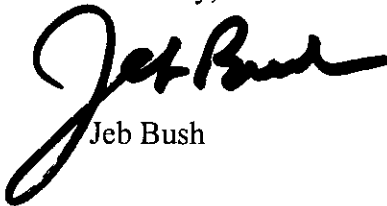
Governor's Mentoring Initiative  
BE A MENTOR. BE A BIG HELP.  
1-800-825-3786

Honorable Mark A. Ober  
Page Two  
April 20, 2006

On a daily basis, I am contacted by members of the Legislature and the public about your investigation. People want to know when the autopsy results will be made public. They want to know why Martin's body was moved from Pensacola to Panama City. Many are concerned over the propriety of law enforcement's actions in this investigation and therefore question the need for maintaining the confidentiality of the information developed in the investigation. I would ask you to consider these questions as you perform your duties in this case. I am as anxious as everyone to learn what your investigation reveals about the nature and manner of Martin's death and eagerly await the release of those findings from Chief Medical Examiner Vernard Adams.

You have my continued support in your endeavors in this case. I look forward to your expeditious conclusion of this investigation.

Sincerely,



Jeb Bush

JB/vb