



## **Florida Drug Test Requirement for State Employees Found Unconstitutional**

A signature issue for Gov. Rick Scott, the executive order requiring random drug testing of many current state employees as well as pre-hire testing for applicants was declared unconstitutional by a Miami federal judge today.

U.S. District Judge Ursula Ungaro ruled that blanket testing of Florida's state employees violates the Fourth Amendment ban on unreasonable searches and seizures. The ruling could eventually have an impact on a new state law also permitting random worker drug testing.

Scott's order was challenged by a labor union representing government workers and the American Civil Liberties Union. They contended that drug testing should only be done if there is a suspected problem and in safety-related and high-risk jobs.

Lawyers for the governor contend that objecting workers are free to quit and job applicants could choose to find employment elsewhere.

Scott suspended the order in June because of the lawsuit.

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