FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 4, 2016 **CONTACT:** GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE (850) 717-9282

media@eog.myflorida.com

TALLAHASSEE ACCEPTS GOVERNOR SCOTT'S OFFER FOR MORE CREWS TO RESTORE POWER

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Tonight, the City of Tallahassee accepted Governor Rick Scott's offer for additional contractors from private companies to help the city restore power. These companies will remove downed trees and fallen tree limbs, as well as other debris that impact downed power lines in Tallahassee. These contractors will also provide over- line support to the debris removal crews. The contractors will begin work tomorrow morning across the city and will be paid for by state funds.

Governor Scott said, "I am very appreciative that the City of Tallahassee has taken us up on our offer for the private contractors we identified to help assist in the power restoration efforts. I also want to thank the City of Tallahassee for accepting Gulf Power's assistance which was first discussed in our meeting Friday. Yesterday, I said that I hoped the city and county would take advantage of offers from private utility companies for assistance. I am glad that the city has done this. There is no doubt that we all want 100 percent power restoration. The city has committed that power will be back up by tomorrow for most of Tallahassee and I look forward to the city reaching that goal.

"The city and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) are working together to ensure debris is picked up as quickly as possible. I am hopeful that they will continue to work well together on behalf of all the residents of Tallahassee. FDOT has offered to immediately begin surveying downed power lines throughout Leon County and will clearly mark them as a hazard so the public knows to stay away. FDOT has also installed 200 generators in the Tallahassee area to support the operation of traffic signals.

"Additionally, the state is deploying 20 law enforcement officers from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Capitol Police and other state agencies to patrol Leon County for the next two nights to help keep our neighborhoods safe. The state is providing bottled water at distribution points in Leon, Gadsden and Dixie counties. As of tonight, the state has provided six trailers of water to Leon County, two trailers to Gadsden County and one to Dixie County. The state has also provided more than 56,000 packages of personal hygiene products for residents of Leon County. Restoring

power is what our families and businesses need. I appreciate the city taking us up on our offer and we will continue to deploy more resources and more crews if the city needs it."

###