

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

EO 20-30

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

**EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO ADVANCE THE  
STATE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN ARKANSAS**

WHEREAS: The rule of law is a founding principle of our society; and

WHEREAS: Well trained, educated, and professional law enforcement officers are essential to maintaining a free society by balancing the rights and liberties granted to all citizens with the enforcement of the rule of law; and

WHEREAS: Citizens expect law enforcement officers to serve the public and conduct themselves with the highest standards of professionalism, fairness, and dignity toward citizens, while maintaining respect and reverence for the rule of law; and

WHEREAS: It is a matter of state importance to ensure that law enforcement training, policies, and operations support and require these high standards for law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS: It is in the best interest of the state and its citizens to explore best practices and procedures for recruiting, training, and maintaining law enforcement officers who will uphold the high standards expected by the citizens of Arkansas and demanded by the rule of law;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

- (1) There is hereby created a Task Force to Advance the State of Law Enforcement in Arkansas, which shall serve as an advisory body of the Governor.
- (2) The task force shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Mr. Fred Weatherspoon shall be chairman of the task force. The task force shall be composed of:
  - a) Fred Weatherspoon, Deputy Director of Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy;
  - b) Percy Wilburn, Lake Village Chief of Police and Vice Chairman of Arkansas Commission of Law Enforcement Standards and Training;
  - c) Jami Cook, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Public Safety;
  - d) Shirley Washington, Mayor of Pine Bluff;
  - e) James Sanders, Mayor of Blytheville;
  - f) Tim Helder, Sheriff of Washington County;
  - g) Scott Hamilton, CEO and President of Urban League of the State of Arkansas;
  - h) Rosa Velasquez, Arkansas United;
  - i) KenDrell Collins, Assistant Federal Public Defender;
  - j) Bob McMahan, Arkansas Office of Prosecutor Coordinator;
  - k) Jimmy Warren, Citizen Activist, Conway;
  - l) Emma Davis, Citizen Activist, Van Buren;
  - m) Tim Campbell, Citizen Activist, Little Rock;
  - n) Layla Holloway, Citizen Activist, Van Buren;

- o) Representative from Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police;
- p) Representative from Arkansas Sheriff's Association;
- q) Representative from Arkansas Black Mayor's Association;
- r) Representative from Arkansas State Police;
- s) Additional citizens as the Governor deems necessary.

(3) The members of the task force shall have the following duties:

- a) Review the adequacy of law enforcement training, policy, and operations, specifically related to cultural, racial, and community relations;
- b) Study and analyze the processes for accountability, discipline, removal, and decertification of officers who do not meet standards, including an evaluation for the creation and implementation of a statewide, public database of complaints and resolutions concerning law enforcement officers;
- c) Study and analyze the effectiveness and sustainability of community policing efforts, including the impact of law enforcement officers living in the communities in which they are policing;
- d) Study and analyze the standards, requirements, and obstacles for recruitment, hiring, and retention of law enforcement officers, including a review of resiliency programs, educational opportunities, and compensation and benefit packages available to law enforcement officers;
- e) Make recommendations to the Governor on enhancing trust between law enforcement and communities;
- f) Make recommendations to the Governor on improvements or changes needed to enhance the profession of law enforcement to ensure compliance with standards;
- g) Consider assigning subcommittees with directions to consider the topics outlined above and report back to the task force with recommendations to be considered;
- h) Submit a final report of the task force's findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than December 31, 2020;
- i) The work of the task force shall be concluded upon submission of the final report.

(4) Upon request, the Arkansas Department of Public Safety may provide staff and other personnel to support the work of the task force.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor