



STATE OF TENNESSEE
EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE GOVERNOR

No. 18

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE
ON METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE**

WHEREAS, the problem of methamphetamine manufacturing, trafficking and abuse plagues communities across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") has found the availability and demand for methamphetamine continues to increase throughout Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, methamphetamine is commonly manufactured in clandestine labs that can be found across in Tennessee and are encountered almost daily by federal, state and local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, these clandestine methamphetamine labs pose a significant threat because lab operators are frequently armed and are often directly involved in the drug's distribution; and

WHEREAS, these labs also pose a potentially lethal environmental hazard to both adults and children due to the unregulated and illegal use of harmful chemicals involved in the production of methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, the DEA estimates Tennessee now accounts for 75 percent of the methamphetamine lab seizures in the Southeast; and

WHEREAS, certain regions of Tennessee have also seen a significant increase in the activities of structured methamphetamine trafficking groups; and

WHEREAS, there is anticipation of an increase in methamphetamine use in Tennessee as the drug gains popularity over other abused drugs; and

WHEREAS, the problem of methamphetamine manufacturing, trafficking and abuse is particularly destructive to the children in our state. The Tennessee Department of Children's Services has observed a sharp increase in the number of children placed into protective custody as a result of methamphetamine seizures; and

WHEREAS, this Administration recognizes methamphetamine as a clear and present danger to the health and well being of our children and our general population; and

WHEREAS, this Administration desires to work with law enforcement, the healthcare industry, community agencies and other interested stakeholders to develop a comprehensive strategy for addressing methamphetamine manufacturing, trafficking and abuse.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Phil Bredesen, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and law, do hereby order and direct that:

1. The Governor's Task Force on Methamphetamine Abuse is hereby established. The Task Force is charged with the responsibility of recommending to the Governor a comprehensive strategy for addressing methamphetamine manufacturing, trafficking and abuse.

In making its recommendations, the Task Force shall consider the advice of recognized methamphetamine experts in law enforcement, healthcare and other fields; the budgetary requirements of the state; and any other factors that the Task Force deems to be relevant.

2. The Task Force shall present its findings and comprehensive recommendations to the Governor on or before September 1, 2004.

3. The Task Force shall have twenty (20) members, consisting of the following individuals:

- a. The Governor or his designate;
- b. One (1) member of the Tennessee Senate to be selected by the Speaker of the Senate;
- c. One (1) member of the Tennessee House of Representatives to be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- d. The Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation or his designate;
- e. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police;
- f. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association;
- g. One (1) representative of the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference;
- h. One (1) representative of the Tennessee District Public Defender's Conference;
- i. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Judicial Conference;
- j. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Hospital Association and the Hospital Alliance of Tennessee;
- k. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Medical Association;
- l. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Retail Association;
- m. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association;
- n. One (1) representative of the Tennessee County Services Association;
- o. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Municipal League;
- p. Five (5) representatives to be appointed by the Governor. In making these appointments, the Governor shall strive to select individuals possessing relevant experience in areas such as law enforcement, education, public health and human services.

FUTHERMORE, the Task Force shall have twelve (12) ex-officio, non-voting, members serving in an advisory capacity, consisting of the following individuals:

- a. Two (2) members of the Tennessee General Assembly. These members will consist of one (1) member of the Tennessee House of Representatives, to be selected by the Speaker of the House and one (1) member of the Tennessee Senate, to be selected by the Speaker of the Senate;
- b. One (1) representative of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration;
- c. The Commissioner of Children's Services or her designee;
- d. The Commissioner of Commerce and Insurance or her designee;
- e. The Commissioner of Education or her designee;
- f. The Commissioner of Environment and Conservation or her designee;
- g. The Commissioner of Health or his designee;

- h. The Commissioner of Human Services or her designee;
 - i. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities or her designee;
 - j. The Adjutant General of the Tennessee Military Department or his designee;
 - k. The Commissioner of Safety or his designee;
4. The Governor or his designee shall serve as Chairperson of the Task Force.
5. The Task Force shall convene for its initial meeting on or before April 27, 2004, at a place and time to be determined by the Chairperson of the Task Force. Thereafter, the Task Force shall meet at such times and places as determined by its Chairperson; provided, however, that the Task Force shall meet no less frequently than one time per month.
6. The Task Force shall be attached to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes.
7. All Executive Branch departments, agencies, boards and commissions, and any other divisions of state government shall fully cooperate with the Task Force in carrying out the mandates of this Executive Order and shall provide staff support and any other assistance as requested.
8. Non-legislative members shall receive no compensation for their service on the Task Force but may be reimbursed for those expenses allowed by the provisions of the comprehensive travel regulations as promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration and approved by the Attorney General and Reporter. Members of the General Assembly shall be reimbursed in the same manner as they are paid for attending legislative meetings pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-106.
8. The Task Force will cease to function following the presentation of its recommendations to the Governor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this 7th day of April, 2004.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE