



**JOHN R. KASICH**  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF OHIO

**Executive Order 2014-06K**

**Announcing the Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations**

**WHEREAS**, a recent series of events in Ohio and elsewhere in the nation has highlighted the fractured relationships that exist between some local communities and the police dedicated to serving them; and

**WHEREAS**, trust between these communities and the law enforcement officials who serve them is essential to building safe communities; and

**WHEREAS**, safe communities are essential to creating and sustaining opportunities for the residents of those who call that community home; and

**WHEREAS**, it has become apparent that too many people in communities of color feel that the protective shield that law and order is intended to provide is not working for them, and this underlying friction can only be resolved by enhancing the confidence felt by the community in their relationship with law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, the vast majority of law enforcement officers in Ohio are honest, decent, hard-working people who every day put their safety and lives on the line in very dangerous situations in service to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, developing strategies to build or re-build trust between people and their governments in our local communities is essential to advancing all Ohioans' interests in keeping our streets safe; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with Ohio's history of people from all across the state and from all walks of life working together to solve problems, community input and advice is necessary for understanding the views and feelings of community members and determining the best practices that are useful to improving police-community relations; and

**WHEREAS**, diversity of thought and experience allows voices from across the state to provide important input to promote better understanding—and improvement—of police-community relations;

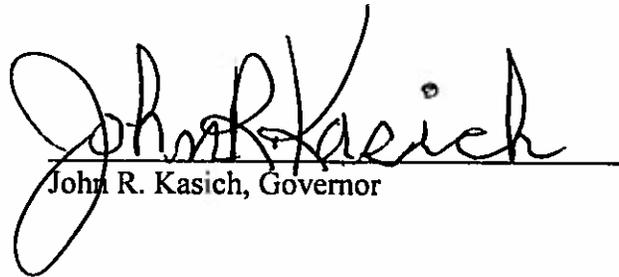
**NOW THEREFORE**, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Ohio do hereby order and direct that:

1. The Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations (“Task Force”) is hereby created to explore the cause of fractured relationships between communities and law enforcement, to examine strategies to strengthen trust between them in order to resolve the underlying causes of friction, and to provide me with a report with recommendations about best practices available to communities.
2. The Task Force shall be comprised of:
  - a. The Director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, John Born, as Chairperson of the Task Force, and State Senator Nina Turner as Co-Chairperson;
  - b. Two members of the Ohio House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirty-First Ohio General Assembly, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;
  - c. Two members of the Ohio Senate in the One Hundred Thirty-First Ohio General Assembly, one appointed by the Senate President and one appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;
  - d. Up to 17 additional members to be appointed by the Governor, as follows:
    - (1) Up to four designees of the Governor;
    - (2) A designee of the Ohio Attorney General;
    - (3) A designee of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio;
    - (4) Up to 11 additional members to be chosen from among the following stakeholder groups: local law enforcement, organized labor, community leaders, the faith-based community, business, municipalities, and local prosecuting attorneys.
  - e. Such honorary co-chairpersons as may be named by the Governor.
3. Staff support and resources necessary for the Task Force to fulfill its obligations as outlined in this Executive Order shall be provided by the State of Ohio through the Office of Criminal Justice Services, in coordination with the Office of the Governor. This shall include space to gather and consider information necessary for developing the recommendations and report called for in this Order. The Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, and members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation for their work on the Task Force, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable and necessary travel expenses in the conduct of Task Force business.

4. Following the initial meeting of the Task Force, the Task Force shall establish a schedule of public forums to be held throughout the state. The public forums shall meet the following criteria:
  - a. No less than four in number, but the Task Force may schedule such additional public forums as it deems necessary.
  - b. The forums shall be held in geographically diverse regions of the state, and shall seek to obtain input from urban, suburban and rural communities.
5. The Task Force shall use the forums to seek input and comment from all Ohioans, especially from Ohioans in those communities at the heart of this crisis, which includes African-American males and their families. The Task Force may solicit expert testimony on any topics the Task Force considers relevant, including best community policing practices, law enforcement training, the criminal justice system, standards for law enforcement interaction with the community, and community oversight and involvement in law enforcement. In addressing these areas, the Task Force may:
  - a. Research, collect information and identify the concerns of local communities, including the information gathered in the public forums described above;
  - b. Examine successful law enforcement training programs relating to community outreach and interaction with people in communities of color;
  - c. Evaluate and recommend how the local communities may better understand police practices and training and support police efforts to enforce the law; and
  - d. Recommend best practices on education and training of law enforcement regarding community outreach, interaction with people in communities of color, and other issues.
6. The Task Force also should identify in its report any additional issues that the Task Force believes merit further future exploration and consideration by experts in the areas so identified.
7. The Task Force should seek to complete the public forums by March 31, 2015, and prepare by April 30, 2015, a report directed to me, the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, the President of the Ohio Senate, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio, and the Ohio Attorney General, setting forth specific recommendations on how to improve police-community relations in our communities.

I signed this Executive Order on December 12, 2014, in Columbus Ohio,  
and it will expire upon submission of the Task Force's report pursuant to this order.



  
John R. Kasich, Governor

ATTEST:

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Jon Husted, Secretary of State