



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**  
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BY HIS EXCELLENCY  
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

**Executive Order 2022-3**

**An order Establishing the Governor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking.**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence was originally created by the late Governor Stephen E. Merrill and was active from 1993 until 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2022, the Task Force on Domestic Violence Cases in the New Hampshire Judicial Branch's report was released to the New Hampshire Supreme Court and we agree with their recommendation that The Governor's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence be reconvened; and

**WHEREAS**, the state remains committed to fostering a multidisciplinary approach to both better address the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, and promote a consistent response to hold offenders accountable for their actions; and

**WHEREAS**, combatting and preventing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking remains a priority for my administration and a commitment to reconvene a commission is an additional measure to ensure victims remain safe and offenders are held accountable.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. The Governor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking is hereby established.
2. The Commission shall work together to develop, implement, and support initiatives that address the needs of victims and survivors and prevent domestic and sexual violence and stalking in New Hampshire through:
  - a. Examining trends and patterns of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in New Hampshire.
  - b. Identifying risk factors, current practices, gaps in systemic responses and barriers to safety for victims.

- c. Recommending policies, practices, and services that will prevent and deter domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, encourage community collaboration to better meet victims' needs, and increase offender accountability.
    - d. Monitoring and reviewing proposed legislation in order to advise legislators and the Governor on possible legislative impacts.
  3. The Commission shall consist of the following members who shall be nominated by the organization listed for appointment by, and to serve at the pleasure of, the Governor:
    - a. The Department of Justice Office of Victim/Witness Assistance designee;
    - b. The New Hampshire Attorney General or designee;
    - c. A County Attorney recommended by the New Hampshire County Attorneys' Association;
    - d. A circuit court prosecutor recommended by the Attorney General;
    - e. The New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence designee;
    - f. A New Hampshire Bar Association designee from 603 Legal;
    - g. A Judicial Branch designee from the branch's domestic violence standing committee;
    - h. The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services or designee;
    - i. A member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives as recommended by the Speaker;
    - j. A member of the New Hampshire Senate as recommended by the Senate President;
    - k. Two (2) members of New Hampshire law enforcement, one representing a rural community, one representing an urban community, recommended by the New Hampshire Chiefs of Police Association;
    - l. A provider of Batterer's Intervention Programming, appointed by the Governor;
    - m. The Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Corrections or designee;
    - n. The Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Safety or designee;
    - o. The New Hampshire Public Defender's Office designee; and
    - p. Two (2) additional members, appointed by the Governor.
  4. If any of the members named in Paragraph 3 become unable to serve for any reason, then the Governor shall appoint a new member to serve in their place.
  5. The Governor shall appoint the chair, vice chair, and secretary from the Commission's membership. The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair, and as often as necessary to complete its work. A majority of the Commission membership shall constitute a quorum, and all official acts of the Commission shall require a majority vote of those members present and voting.

6. The Commission may, as it deems appropriate, make recommendations to existing agencies or appoint subcommittees for the purpose of examining specific topics within the charge of the Commission.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-six.

  
GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE