Executive Order 2015-04

Renewing and Amending the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women
(Amending and Superseding Executive Order 2011-09)

WHEREAS, violence against women affects Arizonans of all races, ethnicities, religions and socioeconomic classifications;

WHEREAS, nationally one in three women have been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in their lifetime;

WHEREAS, in 2014, Arizona had 115 known deaths related to domestic violence;

WHEREAS, in Arizona one or more children witness a domestic violence incident every 44 minutes;

WHEREAS, witnessing violence between one's parents or caretakers is the strongest risk factor for transmitting violent behavior from one generation to the next, increasing the chance of perpetuating the cycle of violence in adult relationships; and

WHEREAS, protecting Arizona's individual communities starts with ensuring that women and families are free from violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State hereby continue the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women (the "Commission") and order as follows:

1. The Governor shall appoint all members. Membership shall include, but is not limited to, one representative from each of the following:

    a. Arizona Attorney General's Office
    b. Arizona Department of Health Services
    c. Arizona Department of Child Safety
    d. Arizona Department of Economic Security
    e. Administrative Office of the Courts
    f. Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
    g. A non-profit organization that is involved in programs or services related to sexual and/or domestic violence
    h. The Arizona Judiciary
    i. A prosecutorial agency other than the Arizona Attorney General's Office
    j. A law enforcement agency
    k. One or more public members

2. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation and at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The Governor shall appoint a chairperson who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4. The chairperson may form an executive committee or other committee(s) as necessary.

5. The Commission shall:

    a. Work with entities throughout the State to increase awareness, prevention and services to improve the response to sexual and domestic violence;
    b. Work collaboratively with jurisdictions throughout the State to ensure a victim-centered coordinated community response to sexual and domestic violence;
    c. Provide a forum for addressing input from the community and respond to new information on violence against women;
    d. Oversee the implementation of the Sexual and Domestic Violence State Plan, and revise this plan as needed; and
    e. Assist with the development of the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Implementation Plan and work to ensure compliance with the statutory eligibility requirements of the Violence Against Women Act.

6. The status of the Commission shall be reviewed no later than December 31, 2018 to determine appropriate action for its continuance, modification or elimination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this sixth day of May in the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-Ninth.

ATTEST: