



**Frank Keating**  
Governor

**FILED**  
**MAR 26 1997**  
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY  
OF STATE

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 97-06**

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I, Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, hereby establish the Governor's Task Force on Substance Abuse.

The recent alarming rise in reported drug and alcohol abuse among young people, coupled with continuing trends in crime, social pathologies, and public health problems associated with substance abuse, require a comprehensive assessment of government and private sector responses to the substance abuse crisis in Oklahoma.

Substance abuse is directly linked to increases in fatalities, penal incarcerations, suicides, domestic problems, welfare rolls, excessive employee absenteeism, unemployment, homelessness, school dropout rates, teenage pregnancy, higher workers' compensation costs, and many other health, criminal justice, social, and personal problems which cost our society billions of dollars each year.

The Task Force shall consist of not more than fifteen (15) members. Appointees shall include persons who are or have been members of law enforcement, providers of substance abuse treatment, workers in a medical field, active in the religious community, or engaged in previous abuse activities. In addition, the 15 member Task Force shall include at least one participant each from the 12-step programs of Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, and Narcotics Anonymous.

All members shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at his pleasure. The Governor shall designate one of the voting members of the Task Force to serve as chairman. No state funds shall be expended by or on behalf of the Task Force, except that the Task Force shall receive support and assistance as necessary from the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services within the limits provided by law.

The Task Force shall perform the following tasks:

-Determine the true economic and personal costs of substance abuse in Oklahoma in terms of lives lost, health impaired, productivity forfeited, and damage to families, communities, institutions, and individuals;

-Investigate the link between substance abuse and juvenile and adult crime;

-Assess the management and delivery of substance abuse enforcement, prevention and treatment programs, both in public and private sectors in Oklahoma;

-Assess the role substance abuse plays in criminal recidivism and evaluate treatment programs and treatment-related sentencing options within the criminal justice and correctional systems;

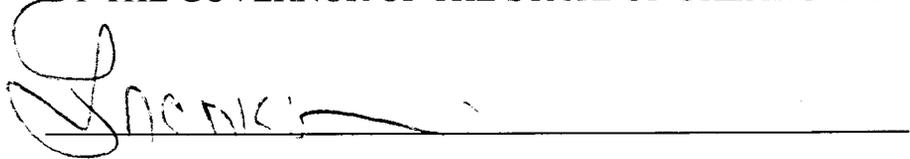
-Prepare a comprehensive action plan charting Oklahoma's future response to the substance abuse crisis. This plan should include recommendations for legislation, structural and operational changes in existing state agencies, public-private partnerships, and other measures the Task Force deems appropriate to reduce the incidence of substance abuse in our state.

The Task Force shall meet at such times and places as they deem appropriate. The Task Force shall report to the Governor as to the progress and status of their effort every 90 days after the initial meeting of the Task Force until a final report has been prepared and submitted to the Governor.

This executive order shall be distributed to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services who shall cause the provisions of this order to be implemented.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed this 25 day of March, 1997.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Frank Keating', is written over a horizontal line.

Attest:



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tom Cole', is written over a horizontal line.

Tom Cole, Secretary of State