

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 2013-001
DATE February 6, 2013

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE COURT ORDER
ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, Maine courts have the authority to issue certain orders in specific cases where an individual's safety is threatened;

WHEREAS, sworn law enforcement is charged with enforcing the terms of court orders, including protection from abuse orders; and

WHEREAS, a review of laws and practices is necessary to ensure that orders are adequately enforced as the State seeks to end domestic violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paul R. LePage, Governor of the State of Maine, hereby order as follows:

1. The Court Order Enforcement Task Force ("Task Force") is hereby established.
2. The membership of the Task Force shall consist of nine (9) persons appointed by the Governor, including representatives of the following groups:
 - a. Department of Public Safety;
 - b. Sheriffs;
 - c. Chiefs of Police;
 - d. Prosecutors;
 - e. Defense Attorneys;
 - f. Attorneys who practice family law;
 - g. Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence;
 - h. Firearms Owners; and
 - i. Sportsmen.

The representative of the Department of Public Safety shall serve as Chair. Members shall serve without compensation. The Task Force may invite participation from other individuals or organizations as necessary.

3. The Task Force shall:

- a. Review the constitutional provisions and existing laws governing the issuance and execution of court orders in response to domestic violence complaints;
- b. Determine best practices currently undertaken by law enforcement to enforce the terms and conditions of court orders;
- c. Review domestic violence homicide cases in which court orders had been issued and violated; and
- d. Examine the practices of other states and jurisdictions to determine alternate means to enforce court orders issued pursuant to existing laws.

The Task Force shall undertake such other duties and responsibilities from time to time as may be required.

4. The Task Force shall submit a report to the Governor detailing their findings on or before July 31, 2013, at which time the Task Force shall dissolve.

The effective date of this Executive Order is February 6, 2013.



Paul R. LePage, Governor