



Executive Order 2013-22

ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Nevada's service members, veterans, and their families bear the costs of war on behalf of our nation;

WHEREAS, the costs of these wars are not only on battlefields abroad, but can also come home to Nevada with our returning service members, which are sometimes compounded by the struggles that often accompany reintegration;

WHEREAS, for some, these experiences and struggles can lead to a sense of hopelessness and helplessness that can result in the tragedy of suicide;

WHEREAS, in Nevada, more than one in five people who lost their lives to suicide were veterans;

WHEREAS, this Administration has eagerly sought ways to reverse this tragic trend and has taken many steps towards accomplishing this mission, including signing the bill creating a Suicide Fatality Review Committee and ensuring veterans were represented on it, establishing the Veterans Suicide Prevention Task Force, and ensuring that suicide prevention was a major focus of the Green Zone Initiative;

WHEREAS, the development of a statewide action plan to improve community-level communication and collaboration toward a more veteran-focused system has produced measurable and positive results, and there has been an actual reduction in suicide fatalities among veterans in the first year since the efforts began;

WHEREAS, more work can and must be done to ensure that Nevada families do not have to endure any more of these tragic events; and

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides that, "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada, I hereby direct and order:

1. The Governor's Veterans Suicide Prevention Council ("Council") is hereby established, replacing the Veterans Suicide Prevention Task Force.
2. The Council shall work to identify opportunities and prioritize recommendations with respect to how best to reduce suicide among Nevada's service member and veteran populations. The Council shall further work towards increasing coordination of State government's efforts to meet the needs of these groups.
3. Members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Representatives from the Office of the Governor and the Office of Suicide Prevention shall serve as co-chairs of the Council. The Council shall include representatives of the following offices, groups, agencies, and organizations:

- a. National Veteran Service Organizations
 - b. Psychological Services, Army National Guard
 - c. Psychological Services, Air National Guard
 - d. Health and Human Services
 - e. Nevada Department of Veterans Services
 - f. Nevada Public and Behavioral Health
 - g. Nevada National Guard Family Programs
 - h. Nevada Statewide Coalition Partnership
 - i. VA Vet Centers
 - j. Mental Health Provider, System of Higher Education
 - k. Any other person(s) appointed by the Governor
4. Appointees from the Office of the Governor and the Office of Suicide Prevention, in their capacities as co-chairs, are hereby ordered to seek representatives of the groups provided in items a. through k. above, and to make appropriate recommendations to the Governor.
 5. The Council shall meet on at least four occasions before July 30, 2014, with the first meeting occurring no later than January 31, 2014. These meetings are subject to the Open Meeting Law as codified in Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 241.
 6. The Council shall deliver a report to the Governor on or before May 1, 2014, detailing the activities of the Council and making recommendations as to how best to reduce suicide among Nevada's service member and veteran populations. The need for future reports can be determined by the Council or upon order of the Governor. All records documenting the Council's activities shall be retained and transferred to the State Archives for permanent retention in accordance with the State record retention policy.
 7. The Office of the Governor and the Office of Suicide Prevention shall provide administrative support for the Council.
 8. Unless otherwise ordered, the Council shall cease to exist on December 31, 2014.

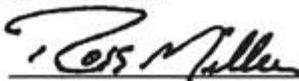
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this sixth day of November, in the year two thousand thirteen.



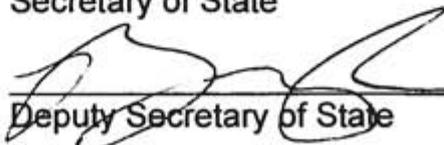


 Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:



 Secretary of State



 Deputy Secretary of State