



TERRITORY OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AGAÑA, GUAM 96910
U. S. A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 97-23

**RELATIVE TO INSTITUTING A FAMILY VIOLENCE
TASK FORCE TO LESSEN AND ELIMINATE
INSTANCES OF VIOLENCE TAKING PLACE BETWEEN
FAMILY MEMBERS.**

WHEREAS, there is a serious and growing problem of violence taking place within the family, commonly called "family violence", in the territory of Guam; and

WHEREAS, family violence includes but is not limited to abuse, whether mental, physical, or sexual, committed against a child, an elder, or an adult or fully emancipated minor who is a spouse, former spouse, cohabitant, former cohabitant, or a person with whom the perpetrator has had a child or has or had a dating or engagement relationship; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that there be a more effective and timely response by law enforcement, prosecution, and the courts to family violence; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that mechanisms must be in place where law enforcement, prosecutions, courts, service providers, and others can work collaboratively to reduce family violence; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that the participation base of partners must be expanded to encompass the total system, to include the criminal justice system, education, service providers and assorted others; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for increased funding for family violence prevention and treatment services with emphasis on children and youth; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that existing programs with demonstrated success are expanded and newly identified services are implemented to include public education and community outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, legislation must be enacted to not only ensure the safety and welfare of victims and their families, but to address other areas of concern regarding family violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act do order:

1. A Family Violence Task Force (FVTF) is instituted.
2. The Governor shall designate the Chairperson of the FVTF and appoint One (1) individual, as appropriate, from the following:
 - a) First Lady of Guam;
 - b) Guam Police Department;

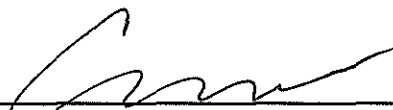


- c) Department of Corrections;
 - d) Department of Law, Attorney General's Office;
 - e) Superior Court of Guam, Family Counseling and Client Services Division;
 - f) Guam Legal Services Corporation;
 - g) Public Defender Services Corporation;
 - h) Guam Bar Representative;
 - i) Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse; Crisis Hotline; Healing Hearts;
 - j) Department of Public Health and Social Services, Adult and Child Protective Services;
 - k) Department of Youth Affairs;
 - l) Governor's Community Outreach - Federal Programs Office;
 - m) Mayors' Council of Guam;
 - n) Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority;
 - o) Department of Education;
 - p) Guam Community College;
 - q) University of Guam;
 - r) Alee Shelter and Shelter for Abused Children, Catholic Social Services;
 - s) Victim Advocates Reaching Out (VARO);
 - t) Inafa'maolek, Inc.;
 - u) Victim Witness Ayuda Services.
 - v) Sanctuary, Inc.;
 - w) United Women of Micronesia (UWOM);
 - x) Naval Services Center, Naval Hospital;
 - y) Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB) Support Flight;
3. The Governor may appoint to the FVTF other individuals from the community-at-large to include religious leaders, private businesspersons, and members of civic associations and organizations; and
4. Members of the FVTF shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor; and




5. The FVTF shall submit to the Governor an annual written report of its findings, policy recommendations, and progress toward achieving its goals, and
6. The primary duties, responsibilities and goals of the FVTF shall be:
 - (a) to identify and assess community needs in the area of family violence;
 - (b) to develop and implement inter- and intra-departmental or agency policy and protocol on family violence;
 - (c) to develop, establish, and evaluate prevention and treatment programs for the community-at-large and for targeted groups;
 - (d) to develop and establish a community resource, referral and visitation center to disseminate throughout the territory educational information and materials concerning the prevention and response to family violence;
 - (e) to provide advice on proposed legislation.
7. Executive Order No. 93-14 is hereby rescinded.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Agana, Guam this 26th day of September, 1997.



CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:



MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Lieutenant Governor of Guam