

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BY HIS EXCELLENCY CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR

#### **Executive Order 2022-06**

## An order establishing the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission

WHEREAS, the State of New Hampshire has prioritized enhanced transparency, accountability, and community relations in law enforcement and engaged in self-examination to identify opportunities to improve relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement in New Hampshire make daily sacrifices, serve our State admirably, and are a necessary and pivotal part of our safe communities; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-11, which established the New Hampshire Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and Transparency (the "LEACT Commission"); and

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2020, the LEACT Commission issued its final report, which included 48 recommendations for reforms that the Commission deemed necessary to enhance transparency, accountability, and community relations in law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 17, 2020, the Governor endorsed all of the recommendations of the LEACT Commission and put forward a road map for implementation of each of the recommendations; and

WHEREAS, one of these recommendations included the pursuit of accreditation by New Hampshire law enforcement agencies based on nationally-accepted standards; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that law enforcement agencies achieve and maintain the best practices, policies, training, supervision, and competence when enforcing the law and keeping communities safe, and accreditation provides a systemic pathway for self-assessment and compliance with professional standards; and

WHEREAS, there is an initiative among New Hampshire law enforcement to create a voluntary state-based accreditation that improves the delivery of law enforcement services and builds on established accountability and trust within our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. There is hereby established the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. The Commission shall be administratively attached to the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council.

### 2. The Commission shall:

- a. Provide recommendations and continual review to the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council to establish State law enforcement accreditation standards consistent with nationally recognized standards and New Hampshire law.
- b. Conduct assessments and issue certificates of accreditation and re-accreditation for law enforcement agencies upon demonstration of compliance with these established standards.
- c. Promote self-regulation of law enforcement agencies through accreditation and encourage all agencies to voluntarily participate in the State accreditation process.
- d. Provide training relating to the accreditation program for New Hampshire law enforcement and members of the public.
- e. Conduct research and cooperate with national, regional, and local, public and private, associations, agencies, and experts to continuously improve the accreditation program and the delivery of law enforcement services in New Hampshire.
- 3. The Commission shall consist of the following members who shall be nominated by the organization listed for appointment by, and to serve at the pleasure of, the Governor:
  - a. the Attorney General, or designee;
  - b. the Director of PSTC, or designee;
  - c. one state senator recommended by the Senate President;
  - d. one state representative recommended by the Speaker of the House;
  - e. three members of the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police, nominated by the President of the Association and including at least one representative from a department of ten sworn members or less;
  - f. one member of the New Hampshire Sheriff's Association, nominated by the President of the Association;
  - g. one representative from a New Hampshire college or university, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor; and
  - h. one public member, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor.

- 4. If any of the members named in Paragraph 3 become unable to serve for any reason, the Governor shall appoint a new member to serve in their place.
- 5. The Governor shall appoint the chair, vice chair, and secretary from the Commission's membership. The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair and as often as necessary to complete its work. A majority of the Commission membership shall constitute a quorum, and all official acts of the Commission shall require a majority vote of those members present and voting.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-six.

GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE