

*State of New Hampshire
By Her Excellency
Jeanne Shaheen, Governor*

A Proclamation

EXECUTIVE ORDER 99-5

An order establishing a New Hampshire Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee under the Governor's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence

WHEREAS, as Governor I have a deep **commitment** to improving services to victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Domestic and **Sexual Violence has recommended that** efforts be **made to address the** issue of domestic violence-related fatalities; **and**

WHEREAS, the formation of a **standing** team **composed** of representatives of state agencies and relevant **professional** fields of practice will **establish** a useful repository of **knowledge** regarding domestic **violence-related deaths; and**

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that New Hampshire can provide a continuing response to domestic violence fatalities, the Fatality Review Committee must receive access to all existing records on each domestic violence-related fatality. The records may include social service reports, court documents, police records, medical examiner and autopsy reports, mental health records, domestic violence shelter and intervention resources, **hospital and medical related data**, and any **other information that may have a bearing on the victim, family and perpetrator; and**

WHEREAS, the comprehensive review of such domestic violence-related fatalities by a New Hampshire Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee will result in **recommendations** for intervention **and** prevention strategies with a **goal of improving** victim safety; and

WHEREAS, the New Hampshire Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee will **enhance** our effort to provide comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence **throughout** the State of New Hampshire;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeanne Shaheen, Governor of the State of New Hampshire by virtue of the authority vested in me **pursuant** to Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby establish a **multi-disciplinary** Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. The objectives of this committee **shall** be:

1. To describe trends and patterns of domestic **violence-related** fatalities in New Hampshire.
3. To identify high risk factors, current practices, gaps in systemic responses, **and** barriers to safety in domestic violence situations.
5. To **educate the public, policy makers and fenders about fatalities due to domestic violence and about strategies** for intervention.
7. To recommend policies, practices **and services that will encourage collaboration** and reduce fatalities due to domestic violence.
9. **To improve the sources of domestic violence data collection by developing systems to share information between agencies and offices that work with domestic violence victims.**
11. To more effectively facilitate the prevention of domestic violence fatalities **through multi-disciplinary collaboration.**

Given under my **hand and** seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this sixteenth day of July in the year of our Lord, one **thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine.**

Jeanne Shaheen
Governor of New Hampshire

