

# State of Louisiana



## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 17-33

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### ***GOVERNOR'S JUSTICE REINVESTMENT IMPLEMENTATION OVERSIGHT COUNCIL***

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- WHEREAS,** according to the United States Bureau of Justice Statistics, Louisiana has the highest imprisonment rate in the United States;
- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana State Legislature in 2015 adopted House Concurrent Resolution 82, creating the Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force to study the state's criminal justice system and recommend strategic changes to improve Louisiana's public safety by safely reducing the prison population;
- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force released a report of its findings and recommendations for legislative reform;
- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana State Legislature advanced comprehensive sentencing and corrections reforms that protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, control corrections costs, and require substantial reinvestment; and
- WHEREAS,** the interest of the people of the State of Louisiana would be best served through the utilization of a single oversight council to review the implementation of those cost-effective, evidence-based sentencing and corrections reforms.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

- SECTION 1:** The Governor's Justice Reinvestment Implementation Oversight Council (hereafter Council), is hereby established and created within the executive department, Office of the Governor.
- SECTION 2:** The duties of the Council shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
- A. Track and advise the Department of Corrections and other relevant state and local agencies on the implementation of policy changes required by the Justice Reinvestment legislation.
  - B. Engage criminal justice stakeholders to promote cross-agency, cross-sector communication and problem-solving.
  - C. Receive and Review performance metric data as provided for in R.S. §§15:872.2 and 827.3 and make data-informed recommendations to further safely reduce the prison population.
  - D. Make recommendations on the best uses for reinvestment dollars and monitor the use of those dollars.

E. Publish an annual report on implementation progress, performance metrics, recommendations and other relevant task force activities.

**SECTION 3:** The Council shall submit to the Governor an annual report on or before December 31, 2018, and each subsequent year, outlining the review of the Justice Reinvestment Implementation plan created by the Louisiana Department of Corrections & Public Safety (LDOC).

**SECTION 4:** The Council shall be inter-branch and bipartisan, composed of eleven (11) at-large members, including representatives of criminal justice agencies and legislators, designated by the Governor and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

**SECTION 5:** The chair of the Council shall be the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections. All other officers, if any, shall be elected by and from the membership of the Council.

**SECTION 6:** The Council shall meet at quarterly scheduled intervals and at the call of the chair.

**SECTION 7:** Council members shall not receive additional compensation or a *per diem* from the Office of the Governor for serving on the Council.

Council members who are an employee or an elected public official of the State of Louisiana or a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana may seek reimbursement of travel expenses, in accordance with PPM 49, from their employing and/or elected department, agency and/or office.

Council members who are also a member of the Louisiana Legislature may seek a *per diem* from the Louisiana State Senate or House of Representatives, as appropriate, for their attendance.

**SECTION 8:** Support staff, facilities and resources for the Council shall be provided by the Office of the Governor.

**SECTION 9:** All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the state of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Council in implementing the provisions of this Order.

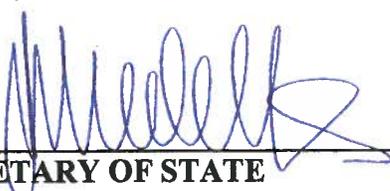
**SECTION 10:** This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated or rescinded by the Governor.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.

  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

  
SECRETARY OF STATE