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**STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 9

**TO CREATE THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, the most sacred obligation of government is the protection of the communities it serves, and

WHEREAS, the epidemic of gun violence and the proliferation of mass shootings have terrorized communities across the United States of America, Maryland, and Anne Arundel County, and

WHEREAS, a gun was used to commit an act of violence against a person in Anne Arundel County almost every day in the last five years for a total of 1688 incidents, including 57 murders, 106 suicides, and 936 robberies, and

WHEREAS, many violent crimes in which guns are used take place in disadvantaged communities that already suffer from the challenges of poverty, poor health, and lack of infrastructure investment, and

WHEREAS, gun owners, law enforcement officers, and an overwhelming majority of county residents understand that government is engaged in the regulation of firearm possession and must therefore engage its citizens in the ongoing process of monitoring and updating that regulation, and

WHEREAS, millions of taxpayer and private dollars are being spent on security each year in our county to prevent people who are carrying guns from entering both public and private buildings, and

WHEREAS, the very fabric of our county was torn apart by the murder of Gerald Fischman, Rob Hiaasen, John McNamara, Rebecca Smith and Wendi Winters as they worked in the newsroom of our community newspaper on June 28th, 2018, and

WHEREAS, to sincerely confront the issue of gun violence, the people of Anne Arundel County must set aside their cultural differences, their political differences, and also the self-interest of those who profit from the proliferation of guns.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steuart Pittman, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, hereby order and direct on this 5 day of April, 2019, as follows:

1. Anne Arundel County Gun Violence Prevention Task Force is hereby created.
2. The Task Force shall meet with the frequency it determines necessary to perform its functions under this Executive Order. There shall be at least one meeting per month.
3. The Task Force shall consist of the following ex officio members or their designee:
 - a. Chief of Staff for the Anne Arundel County Executive
 - b. State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County
 - c. Sheriff of Anne Arundel County
 - d. Anne Arundel County Health Officer
 - e. Executive Director of the Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc.
 - f. Chief of the Anne Arundel County Police Department
 - g. Director of the Office of Emergency Operations
 - h. Director of the Emergency Operations Center for the City of Annapolis
 - i. Military and Veterans Liaison for Anne Arundel County
 - j. County Attorney for Anne Arundel County
 - k. Chief of the Anne Arundel County Fire Department
 - l. A Member of the House of Delegates representing a district in Anne Arundel County
 - m. A Member of the State Senate representing a district in Anne Arundel County
 - n. Two Members from the Anne Arundel County Council, of which both may not be a member of the same political party
 - o. A Member of the Annapolis City Council
 - p. A Member of the Anne Arundel County Board of Education
4. The County Executive has the discretion to appoint no more than eighteen (18) at-large members.
5. The County Council may appoint two (2) at-large members.
6. The County Executive shall designate one member as Chair and no more than two members as Vice Chairs.
7. The Task Force is an advisory body that shall:
 - a. Research and compile data related to gun violence in Anne Arundel County, including:
 - i. How many and what kind of acts of gun violence are observed in the county each year;
 - ii. What kind of guns are used and how are the guns obtained;
 - iii. Whatever other information the Task Force shall need to perform its duties.
 - b. Investigate the circumstances in which gun violence incidents in the county have occurred and how and why they happened.

- c. Research how the public health system could be used to address individuals in need of behavioral health services who may be at risk to commit or be the victim of gun violence.
- d. Recommend actionable proposals to reduce gun violence in this county.
- e. The Task Force shall submit a preliminary report to the County Executive summarizing its progress and any initial findings and recommendations no later than December 15, 2019.
- f. The Task Force shall submit a final report to the County Executive no later than May 1, 2020. The Task Force may include in that report a recommendation to continue its work.

This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law and remain in existence until altered or terminated by a subsequent Executive Order.


STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:


Gregory J. Swain
County Attorney