

STATE OF DELAWARE



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER**

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER TWENTY- THREE

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON SECURITY
AT THE MULTI-PURPOSE CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACILITY ("GANDER
HILL" OR "FACILITY")

WHEREAS, on November 28, 1994, eight prisoners escaped from the maximum security unit at Gander Hill; and

WHEREAS, this escape raises serious questions about the security arrangements at Gander Hill; and

WHEREAS, an investigation is underway by the Attorney General's Office, the Delaware State Police and the Department of Correction to determine the chain of events leading to the escape; and

WHEREAS, there is the additional need for an investigation of the security arrangements at Gander Hill to determine the adequacy of those arrangements and to recommend efficient and effective measures that can be undertaken to help prevent future escapes and to better assure the safety of the surrounding neighborhood and the community-at-large.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS R. CARPER, by the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order that:

1. The Governor's Task Force on Security at Gander Hill is hereby established.

The Chairperson and members of the Task Force shall be appointed by me.

2. The purpose of the Task Force shall be to evaluate the security of the Gander Hill Facility and to recommend improvements necessary to prevent escapes in the future.

Specifically, the Task Force shall:

(a) Review the rules and procedures governing internal security at Gander Hill and recommend improvements to help prevent future escapes from the Facility;

(b) Review the physical facilities at Gander Hill to determine whether there are cost-effective improvements that can be made to improve the security of the Facility and the safety of the surrounding neighborhood; and

(c) Review the staffing and the personnel procedures in place at the Facility to determine whether there are cost-effective changes that can be made in those areas to improve security at the Facility.

3. Staffing of the Task Force shall be coordinated by the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff. The Commissioner of Correction and the Superintendent of the Delaware State Police shall ensure that, to the extent deemed necessary and appropriate by the Task Force, the personnel and resources of the Department of Correction and the Delaware State Police will be available to assist the Task Force in its work.

4. The Task Force shall issue an interim report of its findings and recommendations to me on or before January 15, 1995, with a final report to follow on or before March 1, 1995.

APPROVED this 2ND day
of December, 1994.


Governor

ATTEST:


Secretary of State

