

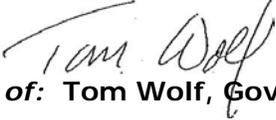
# Executive Order

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Governor's Office

**Subject:**  
**Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs**

**Number:**  
**2015-07**

  
**By Direction of: Tom Wolf, Governor**

**Date: August 4, 2015**

WHEREAS, African Americans in Pennsylvania make unique, diverse and valuable contributions to the culture, society and economy of Pennsylvania, which have a beneficial impact on life in the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the commonwealth is committed to providing equality and opportunity for all Pennsylvanians and increasing access for African Americans to civic, economic, and educational opportunities in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the contributions of the African American community, while still recognizing the challenges still faced by many African Americans; and

WHEREAS, it will benefit the commonwealth to define and address the unique contributions, needs and concerns of the African American community, in order to improve the lives of all Pennsylvanians.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby reestablish, in the Office of the Governor, the **Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs** (hereinafter referred to as "Commission") as the commonwealth's advocate agency for its African American citizens as hereinafter set forth.

## 1. Functions.

- a. Advise the Governor on policies, procedures, legislation and regulations that affect the African American community;
- b. Develop, review and recommend to the Governor policies in the areas of health and human services, housing, education, employment, business formation and other relevant areas, which affect the African American community;

- c. Provide appropriate assistance and advice to state agencies, including the Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority, and work with the Bureau of Workforce Planning, Development, and Equal Employment Opportunity, within the Office of Human Resources and Management, in the Governor's Office of Administration, to strengthen the enforcement of the commonwealth's anti-discriminatory hiring, retention and promotion policies;
- d. Serve as a liaison to federal, state and local agencies to ensure that programs impacting African Americans are effectively utilized;
- e. Serve as a resource for community groups and provide forums for developing strategies and programs that will expand and enhance the civic, social, educational, cultural and economic status of the African American community;
- f. Identify programs, scholarships, mentoring programs, sources of funding or other resources and compliance requirements for the benefit and advancement of African Americans; and
- g. Promote the cultural arts of the African American community throughout the commonwealth.

## **2. Composition of the Commission.**

- a. The Commission shall consist of no more than 20 members, to be appointed by the Governor, who are representatives of the commonwealth's African American community or others who have an interest in the success of the African American community and provide value to the Commission;
- b. The Governor shall designate one Commission member to serve as chairperson of the Commission. Also, the Governor may designate one Commission member to serve as the vice-chairperson. The chairperson and vice-chairperson will serve at the pleasure of the Governor;
- c. The Governor shall appoint an Executive Director of the Commission, who will serve at the pleasure of the Governor and who may be a member of the Commission.

## **3. Terms of Membership.**

- a. Members shall be appointed for terms of two years and continue to serve until their respective successors are appointed. A member may be reappointed for one or more additional terms. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor;
- b. Should a vacancy occur on the Commission, the Governor shall appoint a successor; and the successor shall be appointed to fulfill the remainder of the term. A successor so appointed may thereafter be reappointed for one or more additional terms; and
- c. A member who is absent from two consecutive meetings, without excuse, shall forfeit membership on the Commission.

- 4. Compensation.** Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their service, except that such members may be reimbursed for travel in accordance with commonwealth policy.
- 5. Relationship with Other Agencies.** All agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction shall cooperate with and provide assistance and support as needed by the Commission to carry out its functions effectively. Independent agencies, state-affiliated entities and state-related institutions are also strongly encouraged to work with the Commission to support its mission.
- 6. Reports.** The Commission shall submit reports to the Governor or the Governor's designee, as it deems necessary, on issues affecting African Americans in the commonwealth.
- 7. Procedures.**
  - a. The Commission is authorized to establish subcommittees, rules and procedures for the effective implementation of its functions, consistent with this order, which subcommittees may include advisory non-members, if approved by the Commission chairperson; and
  - b. A majority of the Commissioners serving at any time shall constitute a quorum.
- 8. Effective Date.** This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect unless revised or rescinded by the Governor.
- 9. Rescission.** *Executive Order 2012-08* is hereby rescinded.