



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER  
No. 2015 - 6**

**DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS  
MIDDLE-EASTERN AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

**RESCISSION OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2013-9**

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 vests the executive power of the state of Michigan in the Governor; and

WHEREAS, Section 8 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 provides that each principal department shall be under the supervision of the Governor unless otherwise provided by the constitution; and

WHEREAS, Michigan wishes to attract and retain top talent, and a key strategy for doing so is ensuring welcoming communities for the highly educated, business investors, and entrepreneurs from all over the world; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's growing and vibrant Middle-Eastern American communities contribute significantly to Michigan's economy and culture; and

WHEREAS, Michigan must engage leaders from all backgrounds and walks of life to participate actively and effectively in the reinvention of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2013, Executive Order 2013-9 was issued, establishing the Michigan Council on Arab and Chaldean American Affairs; and

WHEREAS, a new and expanded structure will allow the Council to more effectively serve the interests of Michigan and its Middle-Eastern American communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard D. Snyder, Governor of the state of Michigan, by virtue of the powers and authority vested in the Governor by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and Michigan law, order the following:

**I. CREATION OF THE MIDDLE-EASTERN AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

A. The Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission ("the Commission") is established in the Department of Civil Rights ("the Department").

B. All of the authority, powers, duties, functions, responsibilities, records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations of the Michigan Council on Arab and Chaldean American Affairs are transferred to the Middle-Eastern Affairs Commission created by this Order.

C. The Commission shall be composed of fifteen (15) members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor. Of the members initially appointed after the effective date of this order, five (5) members shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years, five (5) members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, and five (5) members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. After the initial appointments, members of the Commission shall be appointed to a term of four (4) years.

D. Members of the Commission shall be individuals who have a particular interest or expertise in Middle-Eastern American concerns.

E. A vacancy on the Commission occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.

F. The Director of the Office of New Americans shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Commission.

G. The Governor shall designate a member of the Commission to serve as its Chairperson at the pleasure of the Governor. The Commission may designate a member of the Commission to serve as its Vice-Chairperson at the pleasure of the Commission. The Commission may elect other officers from its members as the Commission considers appropriate.

H. The Commission shall be administered under the supervision of the Department. The new Commission shall exercise its prescribed powers, duties, and functions independently of the Director of the Department ("the Director"). All budgeting, procurement, and related management functions of the Commission shall be performed under the direction and supervision of the Department.

## **II. RESCISSION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 2013-9**

Executive Order 2013-9 is rescinded and the Michigan Council on Arab and Chaldean American Affairs is abolished.

## **III. CHARGE TO THE COMMISSION**

A. The Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the Governor and the Director and shall do all of the following:

- i. Review and advise the Governor and the Director on the state's policies concerning the Middle-Eastern American community.

- ii. Review and advise the Governor and the Director on the nature, magnitude, and priorities of the issues facing the Middle-Eastern American community.
- iii. Monitor, evaluate, investigate, and recommend programs for the betterment of the Middle-Eastern American community.
- iv. Analyze and recommend policies and programs to advance economic development within the Middle-Eastern American community.
- v. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Director regarding changes in state programs, statutes, regulations and policies, including, but not limited to, the coordination of state programs serving Middle-Eastern Americans.
- vi. Recommend policy and action plans to serve the needs of Middle Eastern Americans in Michigan.
- vii. Recognize the history, accomplishments, and contributions of Michigan's Middle-Eastern American community.
- viii. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Director regarding methods of overcoming discrimination against Middle-Eastern Americans.
- ix. Promote public awareness of Middle-Eastern American culture.
- x. Promote equal access to state services.
- xi. Promote the involvement of Middle-Eastern Americans in government at all levels.

B. The Commission shall also provide other information or advice regarding Middle-Eastern American concerns or issues as requested by the Governor or Director.

C. The Commission shall issue reports that address issues described in Section III and provide recommendations at times designated by the Governor or the Director.

#### **IV. OPERATIONS OF THE COMMISSION**

A. The Commission shall be staffed and assisted by personnel from the Department as directed by the Governor.

B. Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation but may receive reimbursement for necessary travel and expenses according to relevant statutes and rules and procedures of the Department, subject to available appropriations.

C. Members of the Commission shall refer all legal, legislative, and media contacts to the Department.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

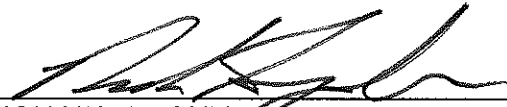
A. Any suit, action, or other proceeding lawfully commenced by or against the Council prior to the effective date of this Order shall not abate by reason of the taking effect of this Order. Any lawfully commenced suit, action, or other proceeding may be maintained by, against, or before the appropriate successor of any entity affected by this Order.

B. The invalidity of any portion of this Order shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Order, which may be given effect without any invalid portion. Any portion of this Order found invalid by a court or other entity with proper jurisdiction shall be severable from the remaining portions of this Order.

This Order shall be effective 60 days after filing of this Order.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Michigan this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen



  
RICHARD D. SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

  
SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE  
ON 2/18/15 AT 2:30 p.m.