

State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JBE 2016 – 46

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

- WHEREAS,** the First Lady is the official hostess of the State of Louisiana and, as a result, the First Lady holds both private status and *de facto* state officer status;
- WHEREAS,** the First Lady of Louisiana, Mrs. Donna Edwards, promotes the health and safety of Louisiana citizens through education, environmental and social issues, including many that impact Louisiana's women and children;
- WHEREAS,** the First Lady, Mrs. Donna Edwards, welcomes visiting dignitaries, makes speeches and public service announcements, authors articles pertaining to her projects, holds press conferences and interviews, participates in charity events, and performs numerous other duties and activities at the Governor's request; and
- WHEREAS,** the numerous duties and activities of the First Lady place significant administrative demands on the office of the First Lady which necessitate that it be given formal recognition.

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 Office of the First Lady is created and established within the Executive Department, Office of the Governor. The First Lady shall be an ambassador and a spokesperson for the State of Louisiana, and shall perform other official duties.
- SECTION 2:** Support staff, office facilities, and reasonable operating expenses shall be provided to the Office of the First Lady by the Executive Department, Office of the Governor.
- SECTION 3:** The First Lady shall not receive compensation or a per diem. Nonetheless, she may receive reimbursement for actual travel expenses incurred in the representation of the Office of the First Lady, in accordance with state guidelines and procedures, contingent upon the availability of funds, and the approval of the commissioner of the Division of Administration.
- SECTION 4:** All departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the state, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Office of First Lady in implementing the provisions of this Order.

SECTION 5: Upon signature of the Governor, the provisions of this Order shall be made retroactive to January 11, 2016, and shall remain in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or until terminated by operation of law.



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 4th day of August, 2016.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR**



SECRETARY OF STATE