

EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE
Governor of the State of Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUSTIN, TEXAS

AWR 91-2

**ESTABLISHING A MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE TO
PLANT CLOSINGS & LAY-OFFS**

WHEREAS, the days when the Texas economy was singularly exempt from the cyclical behavior of the national economy have faded; and

WHEREAS, both the public and private sectors recognize that the competitiveness of the national and international marketplace will dictate change for generations of Texans; and

WHEREAS, this necessary restructuring of the world's economy is occurring at the same time that the U.S. finds itself struggling to reduce its massive federal deficit; and

WHEREAS, this makes it ever more likely that even the diversification that Texas experienced after its primary industry--oil and gas--failed, will not protect the State's citizens from the human and economic hardship of lost employment in industries subject to the wear and tear of the domestic deficit and international competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas must effectively and efficiently direct all of its available resources to address this growing dislocation, and must be able to quickly bring these resources to bear, in order to soften the short-term impact on families and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ann W. Richards, Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me, do hereby create and establish the Texas Rapid Response Team, hereinafter referred to as the TEAM.

The TEAM will consist of representatives appointed by each of the following agencies with major responsibilities for education, training, employment services and job creation:

- a) The Texas Department of Commerce
- b) The Texas Employment Commission
- c) The Texas Education Agency
- d) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- e) The Texas Department of Human Services

Coordination of the TEAM will reside in the Governor's Department of Economic Development. The TEAM is charged with the following responsibilities:

- a) to enhance the state's ability to act on industry closing and major lay-offs.
- b) to identify and coordinate services and resources already at the disposal of federal, state and local officials.
- c) to reduce the human and economic dislocation associated with lay-offs.
- d) to offer technical assistance to help communities plan economic diversification, including business retention and expansion strategies.

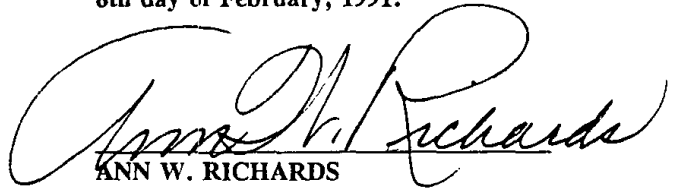
All agencies of State and local governments are directed to cooperate with and assist the Texas Rapid Response Team.

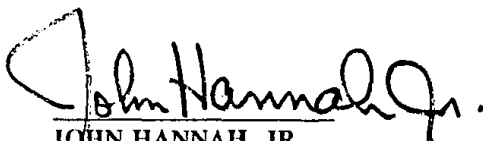
This Executive Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in full effect until modified, amended or rescinded by me.



SEAL OF STATE OF TEXAS

Given under my hand this
8th day of February, 1991.


ANN W. RICHARDS
Governor


JOHN HANNAH, JR.
Secretary of State

Filed in the Office of
Secretary of State

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