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## **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

### **DESIGNATING STATE'S PROSECUTOR**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, and in particular Colorado Revised Statute § 24-31-101(1)(a), I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order designating Ken Salazar, Attorney General for the State of Colorado, as the State's prosecutor, to investigate and prosecute criminal or civil matters related to the University of Colorado and its football team and recruiting practices.

1. Background and Purpose

In recent months, the University of Colorado has been the subject of intense local and national scrutiny. In particular, questions surround the University's football program and recruiting activities, stemming from allegations of rape, sexual misconduct, illegal alcohol use, and other unacceptable and illegal conduct.

Reported accusations involve multiple law enforcement agencies and jurisdictions. The creation of one statewide investigative entity is necessary to ensure an inclusive and coherent investigation of these serious issues.

The State of Colorado is interested in investigating and potentially filing claims related to the alleged activities because the controversy involves a prominent state institution, and because of the need for a statewide entity authorized to thoroughly investigate and resolve the issues in a comprehensive, consistent, and expeditious manner.

For these reasons, I am designating the Attorney General to appear for the State of Colorado to investigate, and if necessary, prosecute such matters in the interest of justice. The Attorney General will appoint a task force to assist with his investigation, to include experts from law enforcement agencies and District Attorneys' offices from various judicial districts.

This designation and investigation is not intended to replace the University's own established and ongoing investigative endeavors.

2. Mission

Pursuant to law and this Executive Order, the Attorney General shall conduct a comprehensive investigation of issues and allegations of sexual offenses and other

matters concerning the University of Colorado and its football team and recruiting practices. If evidence warrants and if deemed to be in the public interest, the Attorney General may pursue prosecution of such matters, consistent with state law.

3. Directive

I hereby appoint Ken Salazar, Attorney General for the State of Colorado, to be the State's prosecutor and direct him to take all necessary actions to investigate and prosecute, on behalf of the State of Colorado, claims related to the University of Colorado and its football team and recruiting practices.

4. Duration

This appointment and this Executive Order shall expire upon completion of the Attorney General's investigation and prosecution related to the matters herein, unless modified or terminated by Executive Order of the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and  
the Executive Seal of the  
State of Colorado, this 27<sup>th</sup>  
day of February 2004.

Bill Owens  
Governor