

# WHAT ARE THE GOVERNOR'S POWERS?

The Governor of Maryland uses three main tools to manage state government and share policies. The main differences between these tools are how formal they are, how much legal power they have, and how they are shared with the public.

## EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- Executive orders are official orders from the Governor that work like laws.
- Intended for big decisions, like emergencies or important rule changes.
- Shared with the public in the Maryland Register and sometimes added to state rules if they are meant to last. This makes them clear and legally official.

## MEMORANDA

- Memoranda are like executive orders but not as formal.
- Used for daily tasks, like giving instructions to state offices or dealing with small problems.
- Don't have to be shared with the public or based on a specific law, so they're easier to use but not as clear.

## PROCLAMATIONS

- Proclamations are official messages that celebrate events, causes, or people. For example, the Governor might name a special day to bring attention to an important issue.
- They don't create laws and are mostly for show, but they help people learn about important topics.
- Usually shared on the Governor's website for everyone to see.