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> MARYLOU SUDDERS Secretary

MARGRET R. COOKE Acting Commissioner

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## ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-18 Issued December 24, 2021

On May 28, 2021, pursuant to Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, Governor Baker declared that an emergency exists that is detrimental to the public health in the Commonwealth due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, and authorized the Commissioner, with the approval of the Public Health Council, to adopt measures to facilitate COVID-19 testing and vaccination, to mandate special measures to protect higher risk populations or to effectuate continued surveillance of COVID-19, and to respond as necessary to outbreaks of the virus as they may arise.

Consistent with the Governor's May 28, 2021 declaration, on June 9, 2021, the Public Health Council approved and authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to take such actions, incur such liabilities, and establish such rules, requirements and procedures which are necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth. Accordingly, having received that authorization from the Council and with the approval of the Governor, I issue the following Order:

Members of the Massachusetts National Guard ("MANG") who have successfully completed the First Responder Training requirements set out in 105 CMR 171.000 shall be considered First Responders as defined in that regulation for the purpose of driving Advanced Life Support ambulances pursuant to Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-1-A.

All applicable statutes, regulations, and guidance not inconsistent with this Order remain in effect.

This Order shall remain in effect until 12:01 am on March 31, 2022, or until rescinded by me, or the public health emergency is terminated by the Governor, whichever shall happen first.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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Margret R. Cooke Acting Commissioner Massachusetts Department of Public Health December 24, 2021