COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LIMITED-TIME STAY AT HOME ADVISORY OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared the coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created a national emergency in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 7301(a) of the Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. § 7301(a), I am charged with the responsibility to address dangers facing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Commonwealth") that result from disasters; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, pursuant to section 7301(c) of the Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. § 7301(c), I proclaimed the existence of a disaster emergency throughout the Commonwealth as a result of COVID-19, and further extended the disaster emergency by Amendment on June 3, 2020 and August 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in executing the extraordinary responsibility outlined above, I am authorized during a disaster emergency to issue, amend and rescind executive orders, proclamations and regulations and those directives shall have the force and effect of law pursuant to 35 Pa. C.S. § 7301(b); and

WHEREAS, in addition to my authority, the Secretary of Health may order general control measures, including, but not limited to, closure, isolation, and quarantine; and

WHEREAS, this authority is granted to the Secretary of Health pursuant to Pennsylvania law. See section 5 of the Disease Prevention and Control Law, 35 P.S. § 521.5; sections 2102(a) and 2106 of the Administrative Code of 1929, 71 P.S. §§ 532(a), and 536; and the Department of Health's regulations at 28 Pa. Code §§ 27.60-27.68 (relating to disease control measures; isolation; quarantine; movement of persons subject to isolation or quarantine; and release from isolation and quarantine). Particularly, the Department of Health has the authority to take any disease control measure appropriate to protect the public from the spread of infectious disease. See 35 P.S. § 521.5; 71 P.S. §§ 532(a), and 1403(a); 28 Pa. Code § 27.60; and

WHEREAS, following an initial curtailing of COVID-19 spread due to the Commonwealth's mitigation efforts, a second wave of COVID-19 cases began in the summer months; and

WHEREAS, despite all efforts taken to date, the pandemic continues to spread, and taking action to prevent that spread while continuing to allow for necessary resumption of economic and social activity requires the Commonwealth to take steps to minimize the danger to Pennsylvanians as a result of participating in that activity; and

WHEREAS, further immediate action is required to mitigate the imminent spread of the disease, and associated health hazards presented by COVID-19, and to enforce the protections necessary to support the response of the Commonwealth to the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of November 21, 2020, the Commonwealth has 302,564 positive cases of COVID-19 in all sixty-seven counties and 9,801 deaths from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is now recording daily COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in greater numbers than at any other time during this pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby strongly advise all Pennsylvanians to:

Section 1:

Only leave home to go to work or school, or for essential needs of themselves or persons they are caring for, such as seeking medical care for themselves, others, or their pets, providing child care or eldercare, going to the grocery store or pharmacy, picking up food or exercising. When not at home, individuals must wear a face covering in accordance with the Secretary of Health's Updated Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings, dated November 17, 2020, and practice physical distancing by staying at least six feet away from others and frequent hand hygiene.

Section 2:

Not have individuals in their homes who are not part of their household unless those individuals are needed to provide activities that are essential for the health, education, child care or eldercare of household members, or other activities, such as essential home repair and cleaning, deliveries of food or medicines or providing home health services. Throughout such a visit, all individuals must wear a face covering in accordance with the Secretary of Health's Updated Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings and practice physical distancing.

Section 3:

Limit holiday celebrations to members of their immediate household or limiting the number of people present at celebrations and following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for a safer holiday. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#considerations-hosting.

Section 4:

Avoid travel, within and outside of the Commonwealth inconsistent with this Order. My Order Directing Travel Mitigation, dated November 17, 2020, and the Secretary of Health's Order for Mitigation Relating to Travel, dated November 17, 2020, remain in effect.

This Advisory shall remain in effect until January 4, 2021.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the city of Harrisburg, on this twenty-third day of November two thousand twenty, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred and forty-fifth.

TOM WOLF
Governor