STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
AT CHARLESTON

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 82-20

By the Governor

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency was declared on the Sixteenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty for all counties in West Virginia, to allow agencies to coordinate and create necessary measures to prepare for and respond to the outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus now known as COVID-19 (the "State of Emergency Declaration"); and

WHEREAS, as of this date, there are several entities that have developed COVID-19 vaccines that have applied for emergency use authorization with the United States Food and Drug Administration, and it is anticipated that such vaccines will soon become available for distribution; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of West Virginia have worked tirelessly to mitigate the spread of the virus and endured the impacts of this COVID-19 pandemic, and the proliferation of these COVID-19 vaccines will help to expedite an end to this pandemic in West Virginia, across the nation, and around the world; and

WHEREAS, this State and its relevant agencies, boards, and commissions, as well as private health care entities and groups across the State, and their resources, will be actively engaged with all endeavors in support of all COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery related lines of effort; and

WHEREAS, there will, therefore, be need for coordination and cooperation between all levels of government, including federal agencies, State agencies, local

agencies, and governments of other states, as well as the health care industry in this State, to ensure that West Virginia's COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery related lines of effort operate efficiently and safely; and

WHEREAS, all resources used in conjunction with the statewide COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery related lines of effort will require that an organized, capable, and fully equipped agency serve as the principal agency responsible for the coordination, direction, and management of all State agency activities associated with preparing for and conducting the statewide vaccination effort; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Joint Interagency Task Force will be the principal agency responsible for such coordination, direction, and management and will report directly to the Governor, as the sole liaison for all statewide COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery related lines of effort; and

WHEREAS, Major General Hoyer, currently serving as the Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard, also serves on the Governor's Coronavirus Task Force and works on a daily basis with agencies at all levels of State government that will be required to support these important events; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the public that all State resources tasked to assist with the statewide COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery related lines of effort, as well as certain representatives of the health care industry in this State, designate certain persons to consult with the COVID-19 Joint Interagency Task Force created by this Order on all decisions regarding development, planning, coordination, roles, and responsibilities, as well as other duties as needed, to ensure that all activities associated with the statewide COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts are successful.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **ORDER** that:

1. There is hereby created a COVID-19 Joint Interagency Task Force (the "COVID-19 JIATF") to support all COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery related lines of effort. The COVID-19 JIATF shall provide logistical support, testing lanes support, and PPE support, and shall support the receipt and distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations throughout the State of West Virginia. The COVID-19 JIATF shall support Operation Warp Speed, and shall provide support to hospitals, long term care facilities, and local health departments, among others.

2. The COVID-19 JIAFTA shall be comprised of the following agencies and entities, dedicated to the COVID-19 pandemic response effort:

- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources ("WVDHHR");
- West Virginia National Guard ("WVNG");
- West Virginia Division of Emergency Management ("WVDEM");
- West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission ("WVHEPC");
- West Virginia Hospital Association ("WVHA");
- West Virginia Department of Agriculture ("WVDAG");
- West Virginia Department of Education ("WVDOE");
- West Virginia Health Care Association ("WVHCA"); and
- Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Marshall University.

3. The COVID-19 JIATF is hereby designated as the principal agency to coordinate all State agency planning and response for activities associated with COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts throughout the State of West Virginia.

4. Major General James A. Hoyer is hereby designated to lead the COVID-19 JIATF (the "COVID-19 JIATF Head"). The COVID-19 JIATF Head shall serve as the liaison to the Governor for the planning, coordination, direction, and management of all events associated with the statewide COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts within this State for which any major State assistance is required.

5. All State agencies, resources, or entities that aid, assist, or participate in any events related to the COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts shall coordinate through the COVID-19 JIATF Head, or his or her designee, all development, planning, coordination, and roles and responsibilities, and the COVID-19

JIATF Head will advise the Governor on all emerging, current, and/or future plans necessary for a successful COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts.

6. The COVID-19 JIATF shall coordinate with key agencies that will have major roles in the support of COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts.

7. The COVID-19 JIATF Head shall work with all appropriate federal agencies related to COVID-19 vaccination preparedness, deployment, and delivery efforts and shall secure the appropriate federal support.

8. All agencies and entities utilized in conjunction with COVID-19 activities shall coordinate all actions, assignments, roles, and responsibilities through the COVID-19 JIATF Head and shall be responsible for keeping the COVID-19 JIATF Head informed, at all times, as to all critical or key issues, problems, or concerns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Fourth day of December, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty, and in the One Hundred Fifty-eighth year of the State.

GOVERNOR

By the Governor

SECRETARY OF STATE