State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360
www.nj.gov/health

PHILIP D. MURPHY
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
*Lt. Governor*

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA
*Commissioner*

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 20-024

## PROTOCOLS FOR HOTEL SANITIZATION

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order 103, declaring the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App A:9-33 et seq., in the State of New Jersey for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Emergency was extended by Governor Murphy under Executive Orders 119, 138, 151 and 162; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks; and

WHEREAS, hotels, motor hotels, motels, and other established guesthouses accommodate large numbers of itinerant individuals within indoor spaces, thus presenting a heightened risk of transmitting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, protocols establishing routine sanitation standards and practices at hotels, motor hotels, motels, and other established guesthouses is reasonably calculated to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spreading within these facilities; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2020, Governor Murphy signed P.L. 2020, c. 37 (supplementing N.J.S.A. 55:13A-1 et seq.) directing the Commissioner of the Department of Health to issue protocols for the sanitization of all hotels in the State in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) and authorizing anticipatory administrative action in advance of those procedures, and

WHEREAS, under the declared public health emergency, the Commissioner of the Department of Health is empowered, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-12, to take all reasonable

and necessary measures to prevent the transmission of infectious disease and apply proper controls and treatment for infectious disease; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDITH PERSICHILLI, Commissioner of the DOH, pursuant to the powers afforded to me by the above-referenced statutes, hereby ORDER and DIRECT the following:

1. All hotels, as defined by N.J.S.A. 55:13A-3(j), in the State are hereby directed to adopt and implement written policies that cover the following:

   (a) maintain continuous 24-hour, seven-day-a-week coverage of a Front Desk, as defined by N.J.S.A. 55:13A-3(j), by at least one employee, and by at least one additional employee per every 200 Guest Rooms, as defined by N.J.S.A. 55:13A-3(j);
   (b) train a Front Desk employee to respond to a guests' inquiry related to health and safety, including but not limited to, the location of hospitals in the vicinity of the hotel, emergency telephone numbers, and options for seeking treatment or testing for virus diseases during a public health crisis;
   (c) ensure that every Guest Room is cleaned and sanitized and provided with an adequate supply of clean towels, sheets, and pillowcases prior to occupancy by a new guest;
   (d) ensure that every Occupied Guest Room, as defined by N.J.S.A. 55:13A-3(j), is cleaned and sanitized every day, and that the room is provided with an adequate supply of clean towels, sheets, and pillowcases and that the towels, sheets, and pillowcases are changed no less frequently than once every day;
   (e) ensure that all Public Spaces, as defined by N.J.S.A. 55:13A-3(j), are cleaned and sanitized at least once every day, and that all Guest Touch-Points, as defined by N.J.S.A. 55:13A-3(j), are cleaned and sanitized regularly throughout each day;
   (f) provide their employees with anti-microbial cleaning products certified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that are approved for use against the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), other coronaviruses, influenza viruses, or other viral diseases. These products shall be used when cleaning and sanitizing each Guest Room, Guest Touch-Point, and Public Space; and
   (g) train its employees on the proper use of anti-microbial cleaning products and on proper cleaning protocols that maximize the sanitary condition of each Guest Room, Guest Touch-Point, and Public Space.

2. All hotels in the State shall adhere to guidance by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention entitled "Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility," as amended and

supplemented, which is available at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html.

3. Upon request by state or local health officials, all hotels in the State shall promptly make available for review its written policies and any other documentation related to this Executive Directive or compliance therewith.

4. Nothing in this Directive shall be construed to preclude the Department of Health from concurrently adopting such rules and regulations as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of N.J.S.A. 55:13A-30, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 55:13A-31 and the Administrative Procedure Act, P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

This Directive is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until amended, superseded, or lifted.

July 9, 2020

Judith Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A.
Commissioner