STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH
SECRETARY

# SECRETARIAL ORDER No. 09
# Rescission of Secretarial Order No. 6: Visitation for Long-term Care Facilities

## March 10, 2021

Secretarial Order No. 6: Visitation for Long-term Care Facilities (Secretarial Order No. 6) was published on September 28, 2020 under the authority originally delegated to me by Governor Cooper in Executive Order No. 152 as amended in Executive Order No. 165. Secretarial Order No. 6 outlined certain requirements for visitation in long term care facilities.

Over 98% of nursing homes regulated by the NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) must adhere to federal visitation requirements published by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as a condition of participation in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. This CMS guidance has been updated with new requirements for visitation.

Recognizing improving trends in morbidity and mortality associated with SARS-CoV-2 and the administrative burden created by duplicative mandates, I hereby rescind Secretarial Order No. 6.

**Section II. Distribution.**

This Secretarial Order shall be: (1) distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; and (2) distributed to nursing home administrators and to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this Secretarial Order.

**Section III. Effective Date.**

This Secretarial Order is effective immediately.

Signed this the 10th day of March 2021.

Mandy K. Cohen, MD, MPH
Secretary

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