



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health
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Karen Shelton, MD
State Health Commissioner

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State Health Commissioner Rescission of the Amended Declaration of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat Constituting a Public Health Emergency for Virginia

WHEREAS, the State Health Commissioner first declared COVID-19 (then-termed “2019 Novel Coronavirus”) a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat for Virginia on February 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State Health Commissioner issued *Amended Declaration of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat Constituting a Public Health Emergency for Virginia* on July 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19, declared by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, will expire at the end of the day on May 11, 2023; and


WHEREAS, COVID-19 remains a public health priority for the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) but no longer constitutes a public health emergency;

NOW THEREFORE, the State Health Commissioner, pursuant to §§ 32.1-13 and 32.1-20 of the Code of Virginia, hereby rescinds the *Amended Declaration of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat Constituting a Public Health Emergency for Virginia* (2021).

Effective Date of this Order

This Order rescinding the *Amended Declaration of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat Constituting a Public Health Emergency for Virginia* shall be effective at 12:00 a.m. on May 12, 2023.

Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Office of the State Health Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 9th day of May 2023.


Karen Shelton, MD
State Health Commissioner