### Forms for Health Directors: Emergency Detention Order Letter

*Patient Name*

*Street Address*

*City, Virginia ZIP code*

**Emergency Detention Order**

Under the authority vested in me pursuant to Section 32.1-48.02 of the *Code of Virginia*, I hereby order that [*Patient Name*], of [*Patient Address*], [*City/Town*], be placed under a emergency detention order and so held for forty-eight hours pending the District Court's consideration of an Order for Isolation. If the specified forty-eight-hour period terminates on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, [*Patient Name*] may be detained until the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. [*Patient Name*] is hereby ordered to be placed immediately in negative pressure respiratory isolation at the [*Detention Facility*] and by whatever means deemed necessary required to remain there.

This emergency order is issued for the following reasons:

1. [*Patient Name*] has active TB disease, a serious communicable disease that can result in death, as evidenced by a medical evaluation by [*Physician Name*] which included [*Evidence of Active TB Disease; Medical Information Such As Positive Sputum Smear and Date; Abnormal X-Ray; Etc*.] on [*Date*]. [*Patient Name*] has refused to abide by isolation restrictions imposed by the Health Director of [*City/Town*] pursuant to Section 32.1-48.02 of the *Code of Virginia*.

2. [*Patient Name*] has a documented history of failure to adhere to a prescribed course of treatment for tuberculosis that includes [*Evidence of Unwillingness/Inability to Follow Prescribed Course of Treatment*], and is engaging in conduct that unreasonably places uninfected persons at risk of contracting TB disease by [*Evidence of At-Risk Behavior*]. S/he represents an imminent threat to the health of others.

3. There is no less restrictive alternative to protect the public than placing [*Patient Name*] in [*Location*] until a hearing on continued isolation can be held.

[*Patient Name*]’s confinement is required to preserve and protect the public health. The consequences of not pursuing consistent treatment and observance of isolation may include drug resistance, continued transmission of *M. tuberculosis*, potentially, increasing organ damage, and death.

Entered [*Date*]

State Health Commissioner

Virginia Department of Health