

# Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

Marcus J. Molinaro  
County Executive



Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, FACEP  
Commissioner

## Public Health Alert

### Standing Commissioner's Order for Isolation for Confirmed COVID-2019

December 29, 2021 12pm

*Please Distribute to Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Family Planning, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Laboratory Medicine, Infection Control, and college health offices.*

Attached is a copy of the "Standing Commissioner's Order for Isolation for Confirmed COVID-19", which was issued today by Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, Commissioner of the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health. This Standing Order directs any person who has tested positive for COVID-19 to isolate themselves until such time as they have been cleared from isolation by the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health. This Standing Order also contains the following directives for medical professionals:

Any doctor, hospital, or other medical provider or facility operating within the County of Dutchess shall provide a copy of the Standing Order to any person who has tested positive for COVID-19 at the same time as the provider or facility is providing the results of the positive test or, in lieu of providing the order, shall inform the person of the order and direct them to the Health Department's website for a copy ([www.dutchessny.gov/coronavirus](http://www.dutchessny.gov/coronavirus)). The provider or facility must maintain documentation that this provision has been complied with.

Every doctor, hospital, or other medical provider or facility operating within the County of Dutchess shall conspicuously place a copy of this Standing Order in their place of business, where it may be viewed by any persons seeking treatment or testing.

It is critical that our medical community assist in preventing the spread and transmission of this highly infectious disease. As such, the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health encourages you to take additional steps to ensure that your patients are aware of their obligation to isolate if they become infected with COVID-19, such as posting the Commissioner's Order on your website, and explaining the duty to isolate at the time of testing.

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**Dutchess County COVID-19 Info Line**  
**(845) 486-3555 or (845) 431-6465 (after hours)**

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**Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health**  
85 Civic Center Plaza - Suite 106, Poughkeepsie NY 12601

STATE OF NEW YORK  
DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH

In re: 2019-Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

STANDING COMMISSIONER'S ORDER  
FOR ISOLATION OF LAB CONFIRMED COVID-19

Pursuant to Section 2100 of the Public Health Law and Sections  
2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 10.6 of the Dutchess County Sanitary Code

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020 the World Health Organization designated the COVID-19 outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising that further cases may appear in any country; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the national public health emergency has been renewed in April 2020, July 2020, October 2020, January 2021, April 2021, July 2021, and October 2021; and

WHEREAS, as of March 7, 2020, Andrew Cuomo, the Governor of the State of New York, declared a State of Emergency by Executive Order 202 as a result of the spread of COVID-19 in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, as of March 13, 2020, Donald Trump, the President of the United States of America, declared a National Emergency as a result of the spread of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Section 2100 of the Public Health Law mandates that all local health officers being Commissioners of Health and Public Health Directors, as the case may be, of County Health Departments, guard against the introductions of such communicable diseases as are designated in the State Sanitary Code, by the exercise of proper and vigilant medical inspection and control of all persons and things infected with or exposed to such disease; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has issued "2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Interim Containment Guidance: Precautionary Quarantine, Mandatory Quarantine

and Mandatory Isolation Applicable to all Local Health Departments (LHD)” (“NYSDOH Guidance”); and

WHEREAS, the NYSDOH Guidance requires that any person who has tested positive for COVID-19 be isolated; and

WHEREAS, the County of Dutchess has individuals who have laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infections; and

WHEREAS, given the volume of positive test results, there is a critical need to protect the public health;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 2100 of the Public Health Law of the State of New York and Sections 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, and 10.6 of the Dutchess County Sanitary Code, as Commissioner of the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health, I do hereby:

**ORDER that, any person who has tested positive for COVID-19 is required to remain isolated at the individual’s place of residence in accordance with the criteria set forth by the CDC and/or the New York State Department of Health (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>), including guidance incorporating vaccination status and/or specific to certain categories of workers, including the health care workforce (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>, [https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/12/return-to-work-isolation-guidance\\_12-24-21.pdf](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/12/return-to-work-isolation-guidance_12-24-21.pdf));**

**FURTHER I DO HEREBY ORDER that, any person so isolated must adhere to the Isolation Protocol attached hereto;**

FURTHER, I DO HEREBY order that, any doctor, hospital, or other medical provider or facility operating within the County of Dutchess shall provide a copy of this Standing Order to any person who has tested positive for COVID-19 upon delivery of the results of the positive test, or shall inform said person of this Standing Order and direct the individual to the website for Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health to obtain a copy.

Documentation shall be maintained that this provision has been complied with, and shall be

provided to the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health upon request;

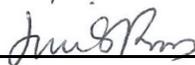
FURTHER, I DO HEREBY ORDER that, every doctor, hospital, or other medical provider or facility operating within the County of Dutchess shall conspicuously place a copy of this Standing Order in their place of business, where it may be viewed by any persons seeking treatment or testing;

FURTHER, I DO HEREBY give notice that the failure to comply with the provisions of this Order may subject an individual to criminal prosecution pursuant to the terms of Section 12-b of the Public Health Law;

FURTHER, I DO HEREBY give notice that an individual subject to this Standing Order has a right to challenge this Order in a Court of competent jurisdiction and to be represented by legal counsel or to have counsel provided, and that if the person qualifies to have counsel provided, such counsel will be made available. To the extent necessary, the Health Department will request that an individual subject to isolation be allowed to participate in any such proceeding by telephonic or video-conferencing means;

FURTHER, I DO HEREBY ORDER that, this Standing Order shall remain in effect until revoked, in writing, by my hand.

DATED: December 29, 2021



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LIVIA SANTIAGO-ROSADO, MD FACEP, COMMISSIONER  
**DUTCHESS COUNTY** DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL AND  
COMMUNITY HEALTH