

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 164

WHEREAS, the Ebola virus disease ("EVD"), formerly known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, is a severe, potentially fatal illness that can spread among humans through direct contact with the bodily fluid of an infected person; and

WHEREAS, since the discovery of EVD in 1976, outbreaks in countries across the world have been controlled through a combination of medical monitoring and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, earlier this year, a new and significant outbreak of EVD emerged in West Africa; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization previously declared Ebola a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, in response to the recent West African EVD event, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the United States Department of Homeland Security ("USDHS") initiated enhanced EVD entry screening at certain airports in the United States, including Newark Liberty International Airport, for travelers from EVD-affected nations; and

WHEREAS, the USDHS has determined that all commercial airlines transporting individuals into the United States who may have been in contact with EVD patients will be routed to five airports, including Newark Liberty International; and

WHEREAS, preparation for public health hazards such as EVD must involve a coordinated effort across federal, state, county, and local governments, first responders, private organizations, and the entire health care industry in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to take action to ensure that EVD remains controlled, and that residents of New Jersey remain safe and secure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. There is hereby created an "Ebola Virus Disease Joint Response Team" (hereinafter the "EVD-JRT").

2. The EVD-JRT shall be comprised of the following six (6) members: the Commissioners of the Department of Health, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Education, the Attorney General, the Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, and the Superintendent of the State Police, each of whom shall serve ex officio and may appoint a designee. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and without compensation.

3. The Commissioner of Health shall serve as the Chairperson of the EVD-JRT. The EVD-JRT shall meet on an as-needed basis as determined by the Chairperson.

4. The EVD-JRT is charged with coordinating all efforts of this State to appropriately prepare for and respond to the EVD public health hazard. The EVD-JRT is responsible for coordinating with all other members of the Executive Branch, including representatives from the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the Department of Transportation, and New Jersey Transit, and any other department, office, division, or agency the EVD-JRT deems necessary for consultation and advice.

5. The EVD-JRT is empowered to create any special advisory panel necessary to develop and deploy the State's preparation and response to EVD, including medical professionals

with knowledge and expertise in the areas of public health, medicine, infectious disease, and related areas.

6. The EVD-JRT shall coordinate the State's partnership with the Federal government and ensure effective communications and dissemination of information.

7. The EVD-JRT shall work with hospitals and other health care facilities to manage preparations for the possible treatment of patients demonstrating EVD symptoms or risks.

8. The EVD-JRT shall coordinate with local health departments to assess readiness for the management of patients demonstrating EVD symptoms or risks, and develop consistent protocols for monitoring and treatment.

9. The New Jersey Department of Health shall provide staff support to the EVD-JRT. The EVD-JRT shall be authorized to call upon any department, office, division, or agency of this State to supply it with any information, personnel, or other assistance available as the EVD-JRT deems necessary to discharge its duties under this Order. Each department, office, division, and agency of this State is hereby required, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate fully with the EVD-JRT within the limits of its statutory authority and to furnish the EVD-JRT with such assistance on as timely a basis as is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Order. The EVD-JRT may consult with experts or other knowledgeable individuals in the public or private sector on any aspect of its mission.

10. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
22nd day of October,
Two Thousand and Fourteen,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Ninth.

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Christopher S. Porrino
Chief Counsel to the Governor