Mission:
To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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FILE CLERK

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

In Re:
Rescission of Prior COVID-19 Public Health Advisories,
Eligibility for COVID-19 Vaccines,
Resuming in-person Government Services

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, On March 25, 2020, I issued a Public Health Advisory relating to protective measures for vulnerable populations, gatherings of private citizens, and density of the workforce; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2020, and July 21, 2020, I issued Public Health Advisories updating the guidance relating to protective measures; and

WHEREAS, Florida's first phase of vaccine distribution prioritized seniors first; and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2021, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 21-79, allowing all Floridians to be eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccinations beginning April 5, 2021 in accordance with the requirements prescribed by the Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, the State has taken tremendous steps to vaccinate nearly 9 million individuals against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the State maintains a sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccines to

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provide an opportunity for every eligible Floridian who desires a COVID-19 vaccine to be vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, scientific studies show that COVID-19 vaccines protect individuals from COVID-19, dramatically diminish hospitalizations and death caused by COVID-19, and protect both the vaccinated individual and others against COVID-19 infection; and

WHEREAS, continuing COVID-19 restrictions on individuals, with no end in sight, including long-term use of face coverings and withdrawal from social and recreational gatherings, pose a risk of adverse and unintended consequences; and

WHEREAS, due to COVID-19 wide-spread vaccine availability, fully vaccinated individuals should no longer be advised to wear face coverings or avoid social and recreational gatherings except in limited circumstances; and

WHEREAS, due to COVID-19 vaccine efficacy, State government offices should be conducting in-person operations to carry out their duties and better serve Floridians.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott A. Rivkees, M.D., as State Surgeon General and State Health Officer, hereby rescind the COVID-19 public health advisories issued on March 25, 2020, June 22, 2020, July 21, 2020, and January 21, 2021 and issue the following:

1. Until further notice, every individual in Florida providing COVID-19 vaccinations, or assisting with coordinating COVID-19 vaccination administration should provide a COVID-19 vaccine to any eligible individual (as prescribed by the Food and Drug Administration) who is a Florida resident or who is present in Florida for the purpose of providing goods or services for the benefit of residents and visitors of the State of Florida. Additionally, every individual in Florida providing COVID-19 vaccinations, or assisting with

coordinating COVID-19 vaccination administrations, is encouraged to ensure that no COVID-19 vaccines are wasted.

2. Because vaccines are available to all eligible Floridians state-wide, Government offices should be conducting in-person operations and services.

Issued this 29th day of April, 2021, in Department of Health offices, Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General