

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 233**

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2017, the President of the United States issued a Major Disaster Declaration for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico due to the impact of Hurricane Irma; and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2017, the President of the United States issued a Major Disaster Declaration for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico due to the impact of Hurricane Maria; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico along with the State of New Jersey are members of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact ("EMAC"), N.J.S.A. 38A:20-4, which requires New Jersey to provide assistance to any other Compact member that has suffered a disaster and requests such aid; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has declared that an emergency exists and has requested aid from New Jersey under the provisions of EMAC; and

WHEREAS, in order to respond to such requests it may be necessary to employ the resources of State, county, and local government and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid circumstances may result in the uncoordinated deployment of emergency personnel and delivery of emergency resources, and may endanger the health, safety, and resources of the citizens of New Jersey by dangerously depleting the supply of essential materials and services; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and Statutes of the State of New Jersey, particularly the provisions N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33 et seq., N.J.S.A. 38A:3-6.1, and N.J.S.A. 38A:2-4, and all amendments and supplements thereto, confer upon the Governor of the State of New Jersey certain emergency powers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of New Jersey, do DECLARE AND PROCLAIM that a State of Emergency presently exists for the specific purpose of activating the Emergency Management Assistance Compact

to coordinate multi-state mutual aid to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and I hereby ORDER AND DIRECT:

1. The State Director of Emergency Management shall implement the State Emergency Operations Plan and shall direct the activation of county and municipal emergency operations plans as necessary to identify resources that are available for response to EMAC requests as authorized by and coordinated through the State Director of Emergency Management.

2. In accordance with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-34, I reserve the right to utilize and employ all available resources of the State government and of each and every political subdivision of the State, whether of persons, properties, or instrumentalities, and to commandeer and utilize any personal services and any privately owned property necessary to provide a full, prompt, and effective utilization of resources to respond to requests from disaster-stricken areas and protect against this emergency.

3. It shall be the duty of every person or entity in this State or doing business in this State and of the members of the governing body and every official, employee, or agent of every political subdivision in this State and of each member of all other governmental bodies, agencies, and authorities in this State of any nature whatsoever, to cooperate fully with the State Director of Emergency Management in all matters concerning this State of Emergency.

4. All persons participating in a response authorized by the State Director of Emergency Management to an EMAC request shall be considered State emergency forces for the purposes of EMAC. All deployed personnel shall be under the operational direction and control of the State Director of Emergency Management for the duration of the deployment.

5. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. App. A:9-40, no municipality, county, or any other agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation,

ordinance or resolution that will or might in any way conflict with any of the provisions of this Order, or that will in any way interfere with or impede the achievement of the purposes of this Order.

6. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as it is determined by me that an emergency no longer exists.

[seal]

GIVEN, under my hand and seal  
this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September,  
Two Thousand and Seventeen,  
and of the Independence of  
the United States, the Two  
Hundred and Forty-Second.

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ James J. DiGiulio

Chief Counsel to the Governor