

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA

★

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Executive Order 2021-08

Lifting Restrictions on Healthcare Institutions

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, pursuant to A.R.S. 26-303 and 36-787, I, as Governor of the State of Arizona, issued a declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency due to the necessity to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Executive Order 2020-10, *Delaying Elective Surgeries to Conserve Personal Protective Equipment Necessary to Test and Treat Patients with COVID-19*, was issued directing hospitals and clinics to delay elective surgeries in order to conserve personal protective equipment (PPE) vital to the effort to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), based on epidemiological data specific to the state of Arizona and in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, recommended the State implement further mitigation strategies which are continuing; and

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2020, Executive Order 2020-22, *Protection of Vulnerable Residents at Nursing Care Institutions, Residential Care Institutions, ICF-IIDs and DD Medical Group Homes from COVID-19*, was issued to protect residents of long-term care facilities who were at heightened risk from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, Executive Order 2020-32, *Requesting Exemption from Executive Order 2020-10*, was issued in recognition that some hospitals and healthcare providers had sufficient PPE to resume elective surgeries on a case-by-case basis; and

WHEREAS, as of March 10, 2021, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in collaboration with the CDC have updated COVID protocols for long-term care facilities in light of updated scientific information allowing for nursing homes to safely expand visitation options during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, vaccination efforts at Arizona's long-term care facilities have been underway since December 2020; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that family and community connections are vital to the mental health of residents of long-term care facilities, ADHS as well as Arizona's Task Force on Long-Term Care Visitation have developed guidelines and recommendations for the safe resumption of visitation at long-term care facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have established rules, guidelines, and policies for long-term care facilities to follow that continue to protect residents those facilities; and

WHEREAS, healthcare facilities and hospitals have sufficient access to necessary personal protective equipment that was in limited supply during the spring of 2020; and

WHEREAS, hospitals that were eligible to resume elective surgeries as of May 1, 2020 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-32, *Requesting Exemption from Executive Order 2020-10 – Elective Surgeries*, have demonstrated their ability to safely resume elective surgery and maintain adequate personal protective equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State, including but not limited to A.R.S. §§ 26-303 and 36-787, hereby order as follows:

The following Executive Orders are rescinded:

1. Executive Order 2020-10, *Delaying Elective Surgeries to Conserve Personal Protective Equipment Necessary to Test and Treat Patients with COVID-19*;
2. Executive Order 2020-22, *Protection of Vulnerable Residents at Nursing Care Institutions, Residential Care Institutions, ICF-IIDs, and DD Medical Group Homes from COVID-19*; and
3. Executive Order 2020-32, *Requesting Exemption from Executive Order 2020-10 – Elective Surgeries*.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



Douglas A. Ducey

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this first day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty One and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fifth.

ATTEST:

[Signature]

Secretary of State