



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**NURSING HOME NOTICE**

**EMERGENCY ORDER: PROHIBITION OF REPATRIATION OF  
SPECIFIED NURSING HOMES PENDING INVESTIGATION**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

TO: River Palms Nursing Home and Rehab  
Maison Orleans Healthcare Center  
Park Place Healthcare Nursing Home  
West Jefferson Health Care Center  
Maison Deville Nursing Home of Harvey  
South Lafourche Nursing Home and Rehabilitation  
Maison Deville Nursing Home in Terrebonne Parish

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH, State Health Officer

RE: State Health Officer Order

DATE: September 4, 2021

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**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until September 10, 2021. This order is subject to extensions by the State Health Officer.

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

The State Health Officer is aware of the fact that the above-listed nursing homes conducted a mass evacuation of residents of the above-listed homes to a site (hereinafter "the Warehouse Site") located in Independence, Louisiana, due to the imminent landfall of Hurricane Ida. Personnel from the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), as well as other public bodies, made site visits to the Warehouse Site before and after landfall of Hurricane Ida. Post-landfall visits occurred on, but were not necessarily limited to, August 30, 2021, and August 31, 2021. During these site visits, LDH personnel observed conditions that have caused great concern to the State Health Officer that he reasonably believes may cause a danger to the public life, health, and safety. Further, as State Health

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Officer, some of the conditions of which he is now aware make him concerned about the possible spread of infectious disease.

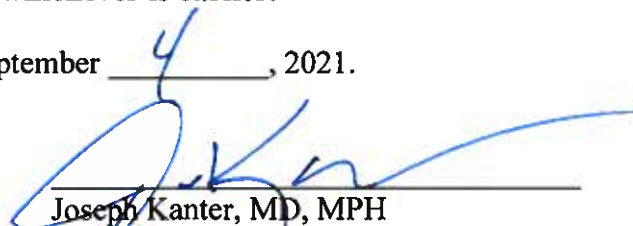
In accordance with La. R.S. 40:4 (A)(13), the State Health Officer, through the Office of Public Health, "shall be expressly empowered and authorized to issue emergency rules and orders when necessary and for the purposes of controlling nuisances dangerous to the public health and communicable, contagious, and infectious diseases, and any other danger to the public life, health, and safety." Further, in accordance with La. R.S. 40:5, the State Health Officer and the office of public health has exclusive jurisdiction, control, and authority to take such action as is necessary to accomplish the subsidence and suppression of diseases of all kinds in order to prevent their spread.

Based on the above information provided to the State Health Officer, he reasonably believes that measures are necessary to protect the public health, life and safety, which includes the possible spread of communicable, contagious, and infectious diseases. The observations at the Warehouse Site, in the opinion of the State Health Officer, call into question the ability of the above-listed homes to properly provide for the full spectrum of care required of these residents and calls into question infectious disease suppression protocols, especially if evacuation of residents is required.


**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 *et seq.*, particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5, I, Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH, State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

- (1) **In the event that the above-referenced Nursing Homes meet the conditions for re-opening of their facilities at their originally licensed locations, they are hereby prohibited from admitting or repatriating residents until the Louisiana Department of Health can finish a full investigation of the above-referenced evacuation or until the expiration of this order, whichever is earlier.**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on September 4, 2021.

  
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Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer

Concurrence:

 9/4/21  
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Dr. Courtney N. Phillips                      DATE  
LDH Secretary