

**Mission:**

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



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

In Re:

SUSPENSION OF STATUTES,  
ORDERS, AND RULES PURSUANT TO  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER  
23-171 MADE NECESSARY BY  
TROPICAL STORM IDALIA.

DOH No. 23-001

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
2023 AUG 28 PM 3:57  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

**EMERGENCY ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, on August 26, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 23-171 regarding Invest 93L and declared a state of emergency in 33 counties; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 27, 2023, Invest 93L strengthened to a Tropical Storm with sustained winds of 40 miles per hour; and

**WHEREAS**, Tropical Storm Idalia is expected to continue to strengthen before making landfall in Florida and poses a risk of dangerous storm surge, heavy rainfall, flash flooding, strong winds, hazardous seas, beach erosion, and the potential for isolated tornadic activity for Florida's Gulf Coast; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 4 of Executive Order 23-171 allows state agencies to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute, order, or rule, if strict compliance with the provisions of the statute, order, or rule would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Florida Department of Health to expeditiously procure commodities, goods, and services to effectively respond to the threat posed by Tropical Storm Idalia;

and

**WHEREAS**, the threat posed by Tropical Storm Idalia requires supplemental deployment of licensed health care professionals from neighboring jurisdictions to prevent interruption in the delivery of critical health care services; and

**WHEREAS**, I find that strict compliance with the provisions of certain statutes or rules proscribing procedures governing the Florida Department of Health would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in preparing for and mitigating the effects of this emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH A. LADAPO, MD, PhD**, pursuant to section 4.B. of Executive Order No. 23-171, find that strict compliance with the provisions of certain regulatory statutes and rules prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business by the Florida Department of Health will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency caused by Tropical Storm Idalia. In order to effectively respond to the threat posed by Tropical Storm Idalia it is necessary to promulgate the following:

Section 1: Procurement

Sections 287.055(3)(a)-(d), (4)(a)-(d), (5)(a)-(c), and 287.057(3), Florida Statutes, and Florida Administrative Code Rules 60A-1.002(4), 60A-1.021(2), and 60A-1.043(1)-(3), are likely to impede the Florida Department of Health's ability to take actions needed to effectively facilitate the mitigation, response, and recovery necessary to respond to this emergency and are hereby suspended for the duration of Executive Order 23-171 and any modifications or extensions thereof.

Section 2: Emergency Medical Transport Certification

Section 401.25(2)(d), Florida Statutes, and Florida Administrative Code Rules 64J-1.002(2)(b) and 64J-1.003(6)(c), which require licensed basic life support service providers, licensed advanced life support service providers, and licensed air ambulance services to obtain a certificate of public convenience from each county in which they operate, are likely to impede

the Florida Department of Health's ability to take actions needed to effectively facilitate the mitigation, response, and recovery necessary to respond to this emergency and are hereby suspended for the duration of Executive Order 23-171 and any modifications or extensions thereof.

Section 3: Waiver of State Licensure Requirements

Sections 456.065(2) and 401.41(1)(b) Florida Statutes, which establish penalties for the unlicensed practice of health care professions in Florida, are likely to impede the Florida Department of Health's ability to take actions needed to effectively facilitate the mitigation, response, and recovery necessary to respond to this emergency. The provisions of sections 456.065(2) and 401.41(1)(b), Florida Statutes, are hereby suspended for a period of 30 days for any health care professional listed below that holds a valid, unrestricted, and unencumbered license in any state, territory, and/or district that provides services necessary to prepare for, respond to, or mitigate the effects of Tropical Storm Idalia. The permitted provision of health care services under this section is limited to the following licensees:

- a. Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians under Chapter 401, Florida Statutes.

Executed this 28th day of August 2023, in Florida Department of Health offices,  
Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.



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Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD  
State Surgeon General