

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN GREENE COUNTY LEGISLATURE 411 Main Street Catskill, New York 12414 AMENDED September 12, 2023

LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 1

On May 17, 2023, a State of Emergency was declared for the County of Greene arising from New York City's program to rapidly increase the number of person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing in the County to unsustainable levels.

Pursuant to NYS Executive Law §24, when a State of Emergency is in effect, the Chairman of the County Legislature may promulgate local emergency orders to protect life and property or to bring the emergency situation under control. By law upon reconsideration of all the relevant facts and circumstances, such an order may be extended for additional periods not to exceed five days each during the pendency of the State of Emergency.

If it were allowed for the City of New York or other municipalities to simply flood the County with person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing, this crisis would only worsen.

Therefore, by the power vested in me as Chairman of the Greene County Legislature, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Prohibition of foreign municipal programs that burden the County.

No municipality may make contracts with persons, businesses, or entities doing business within the County to transport person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing:

- A. To locations in the County, or to house persons at locations in the County for any length of time without the express written permission of the Chairman of the Greene County Legislature. In addition, no person or entity may act on behalf of any municipality or in performance of a municipal program, or other act funded by a municipality, to perform an act in violation of this subsection.
- B. No hotel, motel, or owner of a multiple dwelling in Greene County is permitted to contract or otherwise engage in business with any other municipality other than the County of Greene (an "external municipality") for the purpose of providing housing or accommodations for person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing without a license granted by the County. This prohibition extends to any person or entity participating in an external municipality's government program or a contract or service funded by an external municipality or acting on behalf of any external municipality.
- 1. Licenses will be granted only by the County Administrator of the County of Greene (the Administrator). The Administrator may enlist the services of any other agency within any branch of the County government to perform the duties necessary to effect this provision.
- 2. Licenses will only be granted where, to the satisfaction of the Administrator, both the applicant and the foreign municipality demonstrate that:
- a. The contract provides that the person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing will be returned to the foreign municipality from which they arrived or another location outside the County, within fifteen days;

- b. The foreign municipality demonstrates to the County that it has sufficient funding to sustain the needs of the person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing during the entire time of their stay in Greene County; and
- c. The foreign municipality agrees to assume any and all costs expended by any municipality in the County ("domestic municipalities") including the County itself, for the care, welfare, law enforcement interactions, court cost and fees and all legal fees or other expenses related to municipal interactions, or other expenses related to municipal interaction with the person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing upon demand.
- d. The foreign municipality and/or its hires and/or agents agree to strictly comply with any and all applicable provisions and/or procedures of the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance ("OTDA") rules and/or regulations, New York State Social Services Law ("SSL"), New York Codes, Rules and Regulations ("NYCRR") related to the relocation and/or housing and/or assistance of any and all person(s) in need of such assistance, including and not limited to: 18NYCRR 491.2(f); 18NYCRR 900.2(e); SSL§62; OTDA 06-ADM-07; OTDA 20-ADM-09; OTDA Desk Guide LDSS 4731; 18NYCRR 352.35(g);
- 3. The conditions described in this section will not apply to any contract directly between the foreign municipality and the County.
- 4. License renewal will be at the sole discretion of the Administrator, after careful review that all conditions referenced above have been satisfied and in further consideration of the purpose and intent of the State of Emergency that instigated this Emergency Order.

Remedies.

1. Appearance tickets. The Sheriff, the Administrator and the Administrator's designees are authorized to issue appearance tickets for any violation of this Emergency Order for the penalty prescribed by NYS Executive Law §24(5).

Civil Penalties. In addition to those penalties prescribed by NYS Executive Law §24(5), any person who violates any provision of this Emergency Order or any term or condition of any license issued pursuant to this Emergency Order, shall be liable to a civil penalty, to be determined by a process set by the Administrator, of not more than \$2,000.00 per person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing, housed by the foreign municipality or other violator, for each day and part thereof during which such violation continues. The civil penalties provided by this subdivision shall be recoverable in an action instituted in the name of this County and initiated by the Administrator.

2. Abatement. Regardless of any other remedy or relief brought by the County for any violation, the Administrator is authorized to direct the County Attorney to commence actions or proceedings in the name of the County, in a Court of competent jurisdiction, to abate any violation of, or to enforce a provision of this Emergency Order.

C. Remedies not exclusive.

- 1. No remedy or penalty specified in this Emergency Order shall be the exclusive remedy or remedy available to address any violation described in this Emergency Order.
- 2. Each remedy or penalty specified in this Emergency Order shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for or limitation of, the other remedies or penalties specified in this Emergency Order or in any other applicable law.
- 3. Any remedy or penalty specified in this section may be pursued at any time, whether prior to, simultaneously with, or after the pursuit of any other remedy or penalty specified in this Emergency Order or in any other applicable law.
- 4. In particular, but not by way of limitation, each remedy and penalty specified in this section shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for or limitation of, the penalties specified in NYS Executive Law §24, or any remedy or penalty specified in this section may be pursued

at any time, whether prior to, simultaneously with, or after the pursuit of any penalty

specified in NYS Executive Law §24.

D. Notifications. In addition to such other powers or duties, the Sheriff of Greene County

may consider in the exercise of the Sheriff's duties with respect to this Emergency Order,

the Sheriff is authorized and directed by this order to make limited stops to notify persons

suspected of transporting person(s) in need of public assistance and/or housing

into the County in violation of the restrictions and regulations of this Emergency Order, and

to similarly, notify the owners and operators of facilities suspected of housing any person(s)

in need of public assistance and/or housing or seeking or entering agreements with external

municipalities, without the license required by this Emergency Order.

Section 2. Effective Date

This Amended local Emergency Order shall take effect immediately.

Section 3. Duration of Local Emergency Order

The Amended Local Emergency Order shall remain in effect for five days unless sooner

modified, extended, or revoked, and may be extended for additional periods not to exceed

five days during the pendency of the local state of emergency.

Section 4. Common Name

This Order may be referred to as the "Greene County Person(s) in Need of Public

Assistance and/or Housing Emergency Protocol".

Dated: September 12, 2023

Chairman, Greene County Legislature

STATE OF NEW YORK}
} ss.
COUNTY OF GREENE }

I, the undersigned,

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the above copy of Amended Local State of Emergency Declaration - Emergency Order No. 1 signed by the Chairman of the Greene County Legislature on September 12th, 2023, with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said Greene County Legislature this 12th day of September, 2023.

Tammy L. Sciavillo
Acting Clerk, Greene County Legislature