

**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
LA FORTALEZA
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO**

Administrative Bulletin Number: OE-2021-044

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO, THE HON. PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, TO EXTEND THE PERIOD TO EXHAUST EXCESS VACATION AND SICK LEAVES FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO, DUE TO THE NEED FOR SERVICE, WORKED DURING THE EMERGENCY CAUSED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

WHEREAS: For over a year, the Government of Puerto Rico –just as the rest of the world– has been facing the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has called for the implementation of public health and security protocols. Moreover, exceptional measures have been adopted to maintain government service continuity for the benefit of the residents of Puerto Rico.

WHEREAS: The measures adopted to combat the COVID-19 pandemic include the promulgation of Administrative Bulletins in order to enable the agencies of the Government of Puerto Rico to continue offering their services uninterruptedly. Said measures were taken to safeguard the vacation and sick leaves, as accrued by public officials under Act No. 26-2017, as amended, known as the “Fiscal Plan Compliance Act.”

WHEREAS: Administrative Bulletin No. OE-2020-086 issued on November 20, 2020, authorized an extension of the period to exhaust any excess vacation or sick leave until June 20, 2021, for certain public officials who worked and continue offering services uninterruptedly to the people during the emergency declared as a result of COVID-19.

WHEREAS: Despite the previous measures taken, there are still some public officials who, due to the need for service during the COVID-19 emergency, have been prevented from exhausting their excess vacation and sick leaves within the extension period granted.

THEREFORE: I, PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Governor of Puerto Rico, by virtue of the powers inherent to my office and the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the Government of Puerto Rico, hereby declare and order the following:

Section 1: **EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD TO USE LEAVES ACCRUED IN EXCESS.** As an exception, and in view of the special circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the period for public officials of the areas listed below to use the vacation and sick leaves accrued in excess is hereby extended to December 31, 2021:



I, Juan E. Segarra, USCCI #06-067/translator, certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate translation, to the best of my abilities, of the document in Spanish which I have seen.

1. employees of the Department of Public Safety and the six (6) bureaus that encompass it, as provided in Act No. 20-2017, as amended, known as the “Department of Public Safety Act,” who, due to the need for service during the COVID-19 pandemic continued to discharge their duties and rendering services at the agency;
2. personnel of any other agency of the Government of Puerto Rico who have worked continuously and in person during the COVID-19 pandemic, and who due to the need for services, have been unable to use their excess leaves by June 30, 2021.

Section 2: **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HEADS OF AGENCY.** It shall be the responsibility of every head of agency to identify on or before June 15, 2021, employees who are potentially eligible for using their leaves accrued in excess in accordance with this Executive Order. Such list shall be sent to the Chief of Staff for evaluation and approval. It shall be submitted as a request and include the reasons that warrant its authorization in light of the special circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 3: **PLANS TO EXHAUST EXCESS SICK AND VACATION LEAVES.** Every head of agency is hereby ordered to coordinate and devise plans as are necessary for the employees identified in accordance with the provisions of this Executive Order to be able to timely use the vacation and sick leave accrued in excess before December 31, 2021, provided that the services offered by each agency are not affected, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 26-2017.

Section 4: **REPEALING CLAUSE.** Any previous executive order that may be inconsistent with the provisions herein is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 5: **NON-CREATION OF ENFORCEABLE RIGHTS.** This Executive Order is not intended to create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by any person or entity, in any matter, civil, criminal, or administrative, against the Government of Puerto Rico or its agencies, officials, employees, or any other person.

Section 6: **SEVERABILITY.** The provisions of this Executive Order are separate and independent from each other, and if any part, section, provision, or sentence of this Executive Order is held to be unconstitutional, void, or invalid by a court with competent

jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force.

Section 7: EFFECTIVENESS AND PUBLICATION. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately. This Executive Order must be filed immediately with the Department of State and the widest possible publication thereof is hereby ordered.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby issue this Executive Order under my signature and cause the Great Seal of the Government of Puerto Rico to be affixed in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 4th of June of 2021.


PEDRO R. PIERLUISI
GOVERNOR

Promulgated in accordance with the law on this 4th of June of 2021.


FÉLIX E. RIVERA TORRES

ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE