

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

Administrative Bulletin Number: OE-2023-33

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO, HON. PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN OE-2023-032 FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCLUDING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CULEBRA IN THE EMERGENCY DECLARATION, CLARIFYING THAT THE STATE OF EMERGENCY INCLUDES THE DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE TIDAL SURGE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS: It is the priority of the Government of Puerto Rico to fulfill its constitutional duty to safeguard public order and protect the lives, property, and safety of all of its residents. As part of this commitment, on October 29, 2023, through Administrative Bulletin OE-2023-032, I declared a state of emergency in several municipalities due to the flash flooding that has occurred.

WHEREAS: Starting on October 27, 2023, Puerto Rico experienced severe rainstorms, with an estimated 6 to 8 inches of rainfall. The rain caused flooding, landslides, and direct damage to citizens in the south, center, and north of Puerto Rico.

WHEREAS: In response to the unstable weather pattern, in addition to flash flood warnings, the National Meteorology Service issued rip current and coastal flood warnings. The very dangerous maritime conditions included a storm surge of up to 12 feet and breaking waves of up to 18 feet. The storm surge impacted the safety, property, and lives of Puerto Rico's inhabitants. In particular, it caused major damage within the municipality of Loíza and increased coastal erosion.

WHEREAS: The municipality of Culebra was affected in a significant manner by the rainstorms. The flooding and erosion created a public safety emergency.

WHEREAS: In response to the events that have occurred since Administrative Bulletin OE-2023-032 was issued, it is necessary to update its contents.

Section 1: **AMENDMENT.** Section 1 of Administrative Bulletin OE-2023-032 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1: EMERGENCY DECLARATION. I hereby declare a state of emergency in the following municipalities due to the flash flooding that has occurred during the past several days: San Juan, Guaynabo, Loíza, and Culebra. This state of emergency includes the damage caused by the rainfall, storm surge, and any other kind of related damages. I authorize and delegate to the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety (DSP, for its initialism in

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.

Spanish), to add, as part of this emergency declaration, any other municipality deemed necessary. They shall do so in coordination with the Office of the Chief of Staff.

Section 2: **PRIOR ORDERS SUPERSEDED.** This Executive Order shall supersede the parts of any executive order that may, in whole or in part, be inconsistent with the provisions herein, to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 3: **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 4: **SEVERABILITY.** The provisions of this Executive Order are separate and independent of each other, and if any part, section, provision, or sentence of this Executive Order is declared unconstitutional, void, or invalid by a court of jurisdiction and venue, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force.

Section 5: **PUBLICATION.** This Executive Order must be filed immediately with the Department of State and the widest possible publication is hereby ordered.

Section 6: **VALIDITY.** This Executive Order shall enter into force immediately and remain in effect until it is amended or annulled by a future Executive Order or by law.

IN TESTIMONY 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 30th day of October, 2023.



**PEDRO R. PIERLUISI
GOVERNOR**

Enacted in accordance with the law on this 30th day of October, 2023.

**OMAR J. MARRERO DÍAZ
SECRETARY OF STATE**