

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF

) SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
) HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
)

IN RE:

) EMERGENCY
) PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

That the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), _____Public Health District, _____ County Health Department, has confirmed, based on information received from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), that you have in your possession and control a prairie dog acquired from _____, a facility identified as a distributor of prairie dogs known to be infected with orthopox virus, commonly known as monkeypox; that this prairie dog’s condition poses a significant health risk to you and other persons and animals with which it has had or may have contact; and that it is necessary for your protection and the protection of the public health that this prairie dog and any other animal with which it has had contact, be quarantined for observation and testing, to be determined by DHEC in consultation with the CDC. That this animal, and others with whom it has had contact, shall be quarantined until DHEC determines that it and its contact animals no longer pose an infectious threat of monkeypox to the public or other animals.

“**Contact**” is defined as being in the same cage with the prairie dog for more than 5 minutes; or for other animals, being confined in a cage within 3 feet of the prairie dog for a day; or for people, handling this prairie dog.

Pursuant to SC Code Ann. Section 44-1-140, the Department is authorized to issue such orders as necessary for the purpose of suppressing nuisances dangerous to the public health and communicable and infectious diseases. Further, SC Code Ann. Reg. 61-20 requires that health authorities shall assume control and management of communicable diseases and exposures and shall see that isolation and control measures are carried out in their respective jurisdictions. The health authorities have determined that it is necessary to quarantine this animal in order to protect the public health and prevent the spread of contagious disease.

Further, all sheriffs and constables shall aid and assist the Commissioner of Health and Environmental Control and shall carry out and obey his orders, or those of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, to enforce and carry out any and all restrictive measures and quarantine regulations that may be prescribed, pursuant to SC Code Ann. Section 44-1-100.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That you immediately quarantine this prairie dog in its cage, pursuant to SC Code Ann. Section 44-1-140, for one month from the date of this notice, or for a lesser time if you are notified by DHEC in writing that these animals no longer pose a threat or significant health risk to humans or other animals and that quarantine is no longer required.
2. That you immediately allow for serological testing of this animal for monkeypox. Should the testing indicate that the animal is carrying the monkeypox virus, then all other animals with which it has had contact must be immediately tested for the monkeypox virus.
3. That you immediately quarantine all other animals with which this prairie dog has had contact, including its two cage mates, and the civet cat and squirrel (type unknown) which have been in close proximity to the suspect prairie dog, in their respective cages, for a period of one month from the date of this Order, or for a lesser time if you are notified by DHEC, in writing, that quarantine is no longer needed.
4. That you not release these animals from your custody nor from their cages, at any time during the period of quarantine. That these animals shall be available for observation by DHEC, or a designated veterinarian, at any time during the period of quarantine.
5. That you not allow any persons or other animals to come into contact with or touch any of these animals until you are notified in writing by DHEC that this Order is no longer in effect. Any person feeding these animals or handling them, when essential, shall wear disposable gloves that must be discarded; the skin and clothing of any handlers should be washed in hot water with soap immediately after touching the animals.
6. That you immediately report any of the following symptoms of illness in any of these animals: fever, cough, blepharoconjunctivitis, lymphadenopathy, followed by a nodular rash. The report should be made to _____, MPH, DVM, State Veterinarian, Clemson Livestock Poultry Health, 803-788-2260.
7. That you immediately report any of the following symptoms of illness in humans who may have had contact with any of these animals: fever, cough, rash and swollen lymph nodes. The report must be called to DHEC at 864-227-5944 during normal business hours; during non-business hours you should call pager number 800-420-1915.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

C. Earl Hunter, COMMISSIONER

Date

, DISTRICT HEALTH DIRECTOR
PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT