



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGATÑA, GUAM 96910
U. S. A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2003- 10

**RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF THE ISLAND AGAINST
THE SPREAD OF SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME
(SARS) AND TO ESTABLISH A SARS TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or “SARS” is an acute, respiratory illness, with sudden onset of high fever, dry cough, shortness of breath or breathing difficulties, sore throat, headache and muscle aches; and

WHEREAS, the world’s first recognized case of SARS occurred in Guangdong Province, China, on November 16, 2002 which resulted in a death; and

WHEREAS, as reported SARS cases rose in Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, the World Health Organization, on March 12, 2003, issued its first world health alert in twenty (20) years and declared SARS to be a worldwide health threat; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2003, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control issued a health alert in response to reports of increasing numbers of SARS cases worldwide prompting warnings of the syndrome to hospitals, clinicians, and state health officials nationwide which to date has 115 cases under investigation; and

WHEREAS, the Guam Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Department of Customs and Quarantine, The Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, the Guam International Airport Authority, the Port Authority of Guam, and airline and transshipment companies doing business on Guam have been advised about the potential outbreak of SARS on Guam; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Guam has established a protocol for dealing with those who may be infected with SARS in line with procedures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2003, President George W. Bush issued an executive order revising the list of quarantinable communicable diseases to include SARS; and

WHEREAS, SARS poses a potentially serious public health threat to the people of Guam because of Guam’s proximity to Asia and the frequent ingress of travelers to the island from Asian countries; and

WHEREAS, immediate measures must be taken by all government agencies responsible for ensuring that Guam is protected to the greatest extent possible from the importation and spread of the disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, I Maga'lahaen Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do hereby order as follows:

1. SARS is declared to be a public health threat to the people of Guam.



2. Pursuant to this Executive Order, the Director of Public Health and Social Services is hereby ordered to add SARS as a communicable disease dangerous to the public health under Title 10 Guam Code Annotated, Section 3301(a). The functions of the Governor under § 1421g(a) of the Organic Act of Guam relative to the promulgation of quarantine and sanitary regulations for the protection of Guam against the importation and spread of disease are assigned to the Director of Public Health and Social Services.

3. The Director of Public Health and Social Services, in cooperation with the Chief of Police and the heads of the Department of Customs and Quarantine, the Guam International Airport Authority, the Port Authority of Guam, and the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, and enlisting the cooperation of members of the private sector, shall pursue and undertake all necessary measures to protect the island against the importation and spread of SARS, including when necessary, the quarantine and isolation of any individual with a suspected or confirmed case of SARS or an individual suspected of being a carrier of the disease. The Director of Public Health and Social Services shall ensure that such measures that are undertaken are reasonable and necessary and do not result in an undue burden on the population's freedom of movement.

4. A Task Force consisting of the Director of Public Health and Social Services, the Chief of Police, the Director of the Customs and Quarantine Agency, the Administrator of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, the Executive Manager of the Guam International Airport Authority, and the General Manager of the Port Authority of Guam is hereby established to address measures, including a community education campaign, that must be undertaken to protect the island against SARS. The Task Force shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours of the promulgation of this Executive Order and thereafter shall meet at the call of the Director of Public Health and Social Services.

5. The Director of Public Health and Social Services shall ensure that open lines of communication are established with the U.S. Secretary of Human Services, the U.S. Surgeon General, and the World Health Organization, to coordinate the establishment, implementation or enforcement of all applicable plans, programs, rules, regulations, and any such measures in connection with the containment of SARS.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 7th day of April, 2003.

Handwritten signature of Felix P. Camacho in cursive script.

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lahaen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

Handwritten signature of Kaleo S. Moylan in cursive script.

KALEO S. MOYLAN
I Segundu Maga'lahaen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

