agency for persons with disabilities State of Florida

March 22, 2020

Ron DeSantis Governor

Barbara Palmer Director

State Office

4030 Esplanade Way Suite 380 Tallahassee Florida 32399-0950

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Toll Free: (866) APD-CARES (866-273-2273) Dear Local Law Enforcement Partners,

Please be advised that this business performs a critical role in providing health care delivery services. As the Director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), I hereby designate APD employees, Waiver Support Coordinators/CDC+ Consultants, direct service providers, and all other duly appointed officers, contractors, and staff who are responsible for the safety of our clients as **essential personnel** needed to assist in meeting health and safety needs as our state responds to COVID-19.

As a result, I authorize these individuals to travel outside of established curfews during the declared State of Emergency related to COVID-19. I authorize such travel only when it is necessary to deliver critical care and personal supports to APD clients, facilities, and group homes.

These professionals are working around the clock to keep clients safe during this emergency. Their dedication is an integral part of Florida's response and recovery to COVID-19.

Thank you for your commitment to assisting as these individuals perform an essential public health function.

Sincerely,

Parbara Summer

Barbara Palmer Director Agency for Persons with Disabilities