

Office of the Director



June 22, 2017

I am pleased to present the Public Health Emergency Law Manual, a new tool to help the District prepare for a public health emergency. This publication details the laws and regulations relevant to all sectors that may be engaged in emergency response to inform preparations for emergencies and help answer long-standing questions that have, in some cases, hampered emergency preparedness.

I am truly grateful to the numerous partners throughout the city who contributed to the development of this manual. As the chief health strategist for the District, the Department of Health relies on the expertise and resources of the government, nonprofit and for-profit sectors to achieve the vision of making the District the healthiest city in the nation. The lynchpin of this vision is a strategy that places health in all policies, including emergency preparedness.

I hope that you will find this manual useful and that you will use it to build plans that buffer the city against the inevitable emergencies we will face in the future.

Sincerely,

LaQuandra S. Nesbitt
LaQuandra S. Nesbitt, MD, MPH
Director