WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has activated the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency;

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus COVID19 has been categorized as a global pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, this pandemic exposes citizens of the Commonwealth to unnecessary risks which may be mitigated by social distancing;

WHEREAS, citizens of the Commonwealth require notarization of certain documents and under the current notary regulations and Acts, in person exposure is required to effectuate notarization in the Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth wishes to recommit itself to the health and wellbeing of its citizens by limiting in person exposure;

WHEREAS, many attorneys that are licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth are also active notary publics of the Commonwealth pursuant to the regulations and Act(s) relevant thereto;
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution as Supreme Executive Magistrate, Part 2, c. 2, § 1, Art. 1, do hereby revoke Executive Order No. ________ and order as follows:

Section 1. A Massachusetts licensed attorney or a paralegal under the direct full time employment and supervision of at least one Massachusetts licensed attorney who also is a duly appointed notary public in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is hereby given exception from in person notarization requirements for a period of ninety (90) calendar days from the date of execution of this Executive Order.

Section 2. Such attestation, acknowledgment or other notarial service shall be valid and effective during such ninety (90) day period if such attorney or paralegal notary (as defined in Section 1 above) witnesses the execution of the document via electronic video conferencing in real time. Such attorney or paralegal notary may then affix their notary stamp and signature to any such document delivered to them; provided that an affidavit is executed by such attorney or paralegal notary which confirms under the pains and penalties of perjury that (i) he/she/they have reviewed a copy of a valid unexpired government issued identification (as acceptable to the Department of Homeland Security for domestic air travel); and (ii) they have personal knowledge of the person(s) executing such document(s).
Section 3. Such document accompanied with such affidavit shall be deemed a properly executed, acknowledged and notarized document for any and all legal purposes in the Commonwealth; including without limitation for recordation with the Registry of Deeds of any county and any other state, local or federal agency, department or office.

Section 4. This Executive Order shall continue in effect until amended, superseded or revoked by subsequent Executive Order.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston this _____ day of __________ in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America two hundred ________.