Executive Order No. 2017-33

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has been impacted by Hurricane Maria, resulting in significant and widespread devastation, and Governor Ricardo Rosselló–Nevares has issued an Executive Order dated September 17, 2017, declaring a state of emergency throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has requested assistance from the State of South Carolina under the terms of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, as provided in section 25-9-420 of the South Carolina Code of Laws; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina National Guard is prepared to provide the personnel and equipment necessary to assist the impacted areas and to fulfill Puerto Rico's request to assist in response to this disaster pursuant to the terms of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby direct the Adjutant General to place on state duty and utilize the South Carolina National Guard personnel and equipment requested through the Emergency Management Division, and in consultation with the Governor's Office, to fulfill the mission in support of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. National Guard personnel and equipment deployment and mission requirements should be coordinated through the Emergency Management Division in accordance with the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall expire when the emergency situation in Puerto Rico is ended or in thirty (30) days, whichever comes first.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 27th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2017.

HENRY MCMASTER Governor