

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

(By Director of Emergency Services)

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 8630 and San Bernardino County Code section 21.0101 et seq. empower the Chief Executive Officer of San Bernardino County (or in the event of absences, certain other designated officers as specified in the County Code) to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when San Bernardino County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of San Bernardino County does hereby find conditions of disaster have arisen within San Bernardino County, California, caused by an extreme wind event that started on October 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS, this event has impacted the entire County with damage to public roadways, sidewalks, fencing, block walls, traffic signals, and private property; caused the loss of power for some sections of the County, required the temporary closure of runways and taxiways at Ontario International Airport, and will require an extensive and possible prolonged period of widespread clean-up before areas can return to normal functions; and

WHEREAS, the, Cities of Chino Hills, Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga proclaimed local emergencies due to the effects of extreme wind; and

WHEREAS, this event resulted in the Blue Ridge Fire, a 13,694 acre wind driven vegetation fire that began outside of the County and quickly moved into San Bernardino County requiring the evacuation and sheltering of residents, the sheltering of multiple small and large animals, the closure of Chino Hills State Park, the temporary closure of State Route 71; and

WHEREAS, the San Bernardino County Operational Area activated its Emergency Operations Center (SBCOA EOC) in support of the City of Chino Hills and Ontario Emergency Operations Center activation on October 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the concurrent Coronavirus Pandemic has made response efforts challenging due to necessary precautions required to maintain social distancing and infection control; and

WHEREAS, the above described event, is creating a condition of disaster within the territorial limits of San Bernardino County which conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of San Bernardino County, and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS the multitude of events that have taken place in San Bernardino County Operational Area continue to draw down local resources beyond capacity;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency exists throughout said County as described herein; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency, the powers and duties of the emergency organization of the County shall be those prescribed by State law, by charter, ordinances, and resolutions of this County, and by the current San Bernardino County Emergency Plan, as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this local emergency be ratified by the County Board of Supervisors in accordance to section 8630 of the California Government Code, no later than seven days form the date of this Proclamation.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors or it is terminated by operation of law.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this Proclamation dated the date indicated below supersedes any prior Proclamation including the Proclamation dated November 5, 2020 which may have been issued regarding this same emergency event.

ACCORDINGLY, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY REQUEST that the Governor declare a State of Emergency and make all relevant funds available to San Bernardino County and all eligible community members and businesses, including, but not limited to, California Disaster Assistance Funds Act funds and State Private Nonprofit Organizations Assistance Program funds, and that the Governor request that the President of the United States make a Presidential Declaration of Emergency in and for San Bernardino County and make all relevant funds available to San Bernardino County and all eligible community members and businesses, including, but not limited to, aid provided by the Small Business Administration.

Dated: _____

Time of Signing: _____

Leonard X. Hernandez
Director of Emergency Services,
San Bernardino County
Chief Executive Officer