

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A
LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE DIRECTOR OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY
OF NEVADA DUE TO THE 2022-2023 WINTER
STORMS**

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 authorizes the proclamation of a local emergency by an official designated by ordinance adopted by the local governing body; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8558 states that a local emergency means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property caused by conditions including storms; and

WHEREAS, whenever a local emergency is declared by a local official designated by ordinance, said local emergency shall not remain in effect for more than seven (7) days unless it has been ratified by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, section A-III 2.6 of the County of Nevada Administrative Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Services of Nevada County to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency whenever the County is affected or likely to be affected by a local emergency and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 2022, winter storms related to an atmospheric river system struck Nevada County, bringing damaging winds, substantial precipitation including significant snowfall at higher elevations, and flooding, and this system continues to impact the County; and

WHEREAS, the threat of mud and debris flows, particularly across county roads and bridges, causes a threat to residents; and

WHEREAS, the county road system has sustained major damages due to the amount of water passed over the road surfaces as well as culvert failures; and

WHEREAS, significant snowfall, rainfall, and high winds have resulted in debris flows, downed trees and power lines causing significant damage to critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, that the conditions caused by winter storms in Nevada County, by reason of their magnitude, create extreme peril to the safety of persons and property, will impact significant County and community operations, including critical public infrastructure and services, and will require the provision of additional public safety and emergency services beyond the immediate capabilities of local resources, services, personnel, equipment, and facilities; and

WHEREAS, that the aforementioned conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate

the proclamation of a local Emergency to enable the County of Nevada and other local government entities to adequately plan, prepare, and preposition resources in order to effectively respond to the threat posed by these winter storms; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session to proclaim a local emergency caused by the 2022-2023 Winter Storms.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Nevada that as of December 29, 2022, a local emergency now exists in Nevada County as a result of the winter storms, which constitutes a substantial threat to the health and safety of thousands of residents across the County; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Office of Emergency Services of Nevada County shall be those prescribed by State law, and by ordinances, resolutions, and memorandums of understanding of Nevada County; and that this emergency proclamation shall expire seven (7) days after issuance unless this emergency proclamation is confirmed and ratified by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California, pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in Nevada County; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that response and recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

Dated: January 9, 2023

By: 

Craig Griesbach
Director of Emergency Services
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