



PROCLAMATION NO. 2024-15

Tenth Extension of Declaration of State of Local Emergency – Hurricane Helene Eighth Extension of Declaration of State of Local Emergency – Hurricane Milton

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-04 on September 23, 2024, which declared a state of local emergency in Hernando County in preparation for the imminent landfall of **Hurricane Helene**; and,

WHEREAS, **Hurricane Helene** made landfall in Florida on Thursday, September 26, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, **Hurricane Helene** caused extensive damage to hundreds of residences and businesses in Hernando County and left many residents without power or utilities for extended periods; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-05 on September 30, 2024, which extended the declared state of local emergency in Hernando County by seven days, up to and including October 6, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-06 on October 4, 2024, which extended the declared state of local emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from October 7, 2024, up to and including October 13, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-07 on October 6, 2024, which declared a state of local emergency in Hernando County in preparation for the imminent landfall of **Hurricane Milton**; and,

WHEREAS, **Hurricane Milton** made landfall in Florida on Wednesday, October 9, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, **Hurricane Milton** caused extensive damage to hundreds of residences and businesses in Hernando County and left many residents without power or utilities for extended periods; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-08 on October 12, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of local emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from October 13, 2024, up to and including October 19, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-09 on October 18, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from October 20, 2024, up to and including October 26, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-10 on October 25, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from October 27, 2024, up to and including November 2, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-11 on November 1, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from November 3, 2024, up to and including November 9, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-12 on November 8, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from November 10, 2024, up to and including November 16, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairwoman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-13 on November 15, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from November 17, 2024, up to and including November 23, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, as the Official Authority, adopted Proclamation No. 2024-14 on November 22, 2024, which extended both of the declared states of emergency in Hernando County by seven days, from November 24, 2024, up to and including November 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, there are still many areas affected by flooding in Hernando County and by the continued threat of flooding; and,

WHEREAS, residents of Hernando County are in the process of clean-up efforts in their communities, which entails removing downed trees, debris and restoring homes that were affected by wind and water damage; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, Declarations of Local States of Emergency may be extended in seven-day increments; and,

WHEREAS, Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, states that it is the innate responsibility of local government to safeguard the life and property of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, Hernando County must take timely emergency measures because of the heightened potential for injury or damage to life and property within the County; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 21-204, Hernando County Code of Ordinances, when a quorum of the board is unable to meet, the chairman of the board, or in the absence of the chairman, the vice chairman is hereby designated and empowered as the official authority to declare a state of local emergency whenever the official authority determines that a natural or manmade disaster of emergency has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of one is imminent and requires immediate and expeditious action, and when a quorum of the board is unable to meet, the chairman of the board, or in the absence of the chairman, the vice chairman is hereby designated and empowered as the official authority to execute orders and rules whenever the official authority determines that a natural or manmade disaster or emergency has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of one is imminent and requires immediate and expeditious action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida, this 25th day of November 2024, that:

1. The Declaration of Local Emergency, Proclamation No. 2024-04, for **Hurricane Helene**, dated September 23, 2024, as it was subsequently extended by Proclamation Nos. 2024-05, 2024-06, 2024-08, 2024-09, 2024-10, 2024-11, 2024-12, 2024-13, and 2024-14, is hereby extended for an additional seven days from the effective date of this extension, unless terminated or modified earlier or extended in accordance with law. All emergency powers that Proclamation 2024-04 authorized are retained and continued for the duration of this extension.
2. The Declaration of Local Emergency, Proclamation No. 2024-07, for **Hurricane Milton**, dated October 6, 2024, as it was subsequently extended by Proclamation Nos. 2024-08, 2024-09, 2024-10, 2024-11, 2024-12, 2024-13, and 2024-14, is hereby extended for an additional term of seven days from the effective date of this extension, unless terminated or modified earlier or extended in accordance with law. All emergency powers that Proclamation No. 2024-07 authorized are hereby retained and continued for the duration of this extension.

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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this Proclamation to become effective December 12, 2024, and through December 7, 2024 at 11:59 p .m., in Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida.

Attest:

DOUGLAS A. CHORVAT, JR.
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Jerry Campbell
Jerry Campbell, Vice Chair
(Print Name and Title)

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

By: Jon Jouben
County Attorney's Office.