

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION
DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROCLAMATION NO. 2024-13
TROPICAL CYCLONE NINE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority provided in sections 252.31-252.90, Florida Statutes (“F.S.”), the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, adopted the Leon County Local Emergency Management Ordinance (“Ordinance”), which is codified in Chapter 2, Article VIII, of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida (the “Leon County Code”); and

WHEREAS, in section 2-305 of the Leon County Code, a natural emergency is defined as an emergency caused by a natural event, including, but not limited to, a hurricane, storm, or flood; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2024, the National Weather Hurricane Center identified a tropical disturbance in the western Caribbean Sea that is projected ultimately to rapidly intensify into a hurricane; and

WHEREAS, the tropical disturbance is moving quickly, with the initial track showing landfall anywhere from the western Florida Panhandle to the Tampa Bay area; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service believes there is a 95% chance that tropical disturbance winds will increase by more than 75 miles per hour over the next 72 hours, indicating that the environment is conducive to a rapidly intensifying storm because of the unusually warm Gulf of Mexico waters and upper level wind conditions; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service is reporting that the tropical disturbance is expected to strengthen into a high-end Category 2 storm, on the cusp of a Category 3 storm, as it approaches the Gulf coast on the morning of September 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has expressed that the situation may evolve quickly once a center forms, and residents should prepare now for a hurricane and significant impacts; and

WHEREAS, there is a potential for significant storm surge, heavy rainfall and flooding, and strong winds; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2024, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 24-208, declaring that a state of emergency exists for enumerated counties in the Florida Peninsula due to Tropical Cyclone Nine; and

WHEREAS, there currently exists in Leon County the threat of a natural emergency from Tropical Depression Four; and

WHEREAS, prompt and efficient precautions are required to safeguard lives and property that may be affected by the natural emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred by Chapter 252, F.S., and Chapter 2, Article VIII, Leon County Code, and after consultation with state and local authorities, I order as follows:

1. Local State of Emergency. A Local State of Emergency is declared to exist in Leon County, Florida, requiring immediate and expeditious action to safeguard lives and property. The Local State of Emergency shall take effect at 8:00 a.m. on September 24, 2024, and will continue for a period of seven days, in accordance with section 2-330(b), Leon County Code, and may be extended in seven-day increments as necessary.

2. Authority. The Director of the County Division of Emergency Management (“Director”) is authorized to coordinate County emergency management activities, services, and programs within the County, including those actions enumerated in Chapter 252, F.S., section 2-307 of the Leon County Code, and Executive Order No. 24-208, as may be amended. The Director shall serve as the liaison with the Director of the Division of Emergency Management, as the State Coordinating Officer for the duration of this emergency, and other local emergency management agencies and organizations.

3. Filing with Clerk. This Local Emergency Proclamation shall be filed with the Office of the Clerk within three days after issuance.

4. Local Emergency Proclamation on Dedicated Webpage. This Local Emergency Proclamation shall be made available on a dedicated webpage accessible through a conspicuous link on the County’s homepage.

5. Link to Division of Emergency Management. A link to this Local Emergency Proclamation on the County’s dedicated webpage shall be provided to the Division of Emergency Management within the Executive Office of the Governor.

THIS LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION authorizes the activation of the Leon County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and the exercise of all powers provided by Chapter 252, F.S., and Chapter 2, Article VIII, Leon County Code.

Dated this 23rd day of September, 2024.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

DocuSigned by:

Carolyn D. Cummings

077B4B7E3ECA477...

By: _____

Carolyn D. Cummings, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

Gwendolyn Marshall Knight, Clerk of Court
& Comptroller, Leon County, Florida

By: DocuSigned by:
Gwendolyn Marshall Knight
178D7F95C3774F4...

Signed by:



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Chasity H. O'Steen, County Attorney
Leon County Attorney's Office

By: DocuSigned by:
Chasity H. O'Steen
BCE5E0EFD079484...