LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA PROCLAMATION NO. 2023-06 (EXTENDING PROCLAMATION NO. 2023-04) HURRICANE IDALIA

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, 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 August 30, 2023, Hurricane Idalia made landfall at around 8:00 a.m. near Keaton Beach (Taylor County) as a strong Category 3 hurricane with 125 mile per hour winds at landfall; and

WHEREAS, though an easterly shift of the storm ultimately spared Leon County from the catastrophic damage that was experienced in neighboring counties along Florida's Gulf Coast, tropical force winds and rain resulted in downed trees and storm debris throughout Leon County; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has issued a major disaster declaration as a result of the damages sustained from Hurricane Idalia; and

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2023, Leon County issued Proclamation No. 2023-04 due to a substantial amount of storm debris that exists in Leon County; and

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2023, Leon County issued Proclamation No. 2023-05 to extend Proclamation No. 2023-04 due to the substantial amount of debris that still exists in Leon County; and

WHEREAS, a substantial amount of storm debris still exists in Leon County, and continued, ongoing debris collection efforts are necessary to preserve public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance provides authorization for the Board or its designee to declare a Local State of Emergency in the event of a natural disaster or emergency, or the imminent threat thereof; and

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 find as follows:

- 1. <u>Local State of Emergency</u>. Proclamation No. 2023-04 is hereby extended and remains in full force and effect.
- 2. Effective Date and Time. This Proclamation extending Proclamation No. 2023-04 will continue for a period of seven days in accordance with section 2-330(b), Leon County Code, unless rescinded or extended.
- 3. <u>Filing with Clerk</u>. This Local Emergency Proclamation shall be filed with the Office of the Clerk within three days after issuance.
- 4. <u>Local Emergency Proclamation on Dedicated Webpage</u>. This Local Emergency Proclamation shall be made available on a dedicated webpage accessible through a conspicuous link on the County's homepage.
- 5. <u>Link to Division of Emergency Management</u>. 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 2nd day of October, 2023.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

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Nick Maddox, Chair

Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

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

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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

By: Chasity H. O'Steen