LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA PROCLAMATION NO. 2024-06 (EXTENDING PROCLAMATION NO. 2024-05) SEVERE WEATHER EVENT/TORNADO OUTBREAK, MAY 10, 2024

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, there currently exists in Leon County a natural emergency from a tornado outbreak that occurred on May 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has confirmed that two EF-2 tornadoes, with peak winds of 115 miles per hour, and one EF-1 tornado, with peak winds of 110 miles per hour, moved through Leon County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, this tornado outbreak has resulted in extensive, severe, and catastrophic impacts, and has become the most destructive storm event in Leon County's history; and

WHEREAS, one resident lost her life, tens of thousands of residents lost power, and more than 100 structures have been destroyed, more than 560 structures have suffered major damage, more than 580 structures have suffered minor damage, and more than 200 additional structures have been affected; and

WHEREAS, recovery efforts resulting from the tornado outbreak are ongoing and will require significant time and resources; and

WHEREAS, additional storm activity, including the possibility of heavy rain and the potential for flooding, is anticipated; and

WHEREAS, prompt and efficient actions are required to safeguard lives and property affected by the natural emergency.

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

1. <u>Local State of Emergency</u>. Proclamation No. 2024-05 is hereby extended and remains in full force and effect.

- 2. <u>Effective Date and Time</u>. This Proclamation extending Proclamation No. 2024-05 will continue for a period of seven days in accordance with section 2-330(b), Leon County Code, unless rescinded or extended.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, of the Leon County Code.

Dated this 16th day of May, 2024.

By:

Carolyn D. Cummings

Carolyn D. Cummings, Chair

Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

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

Docusigned by:

Liwendolyn Marshall Knight

By:

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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

By: Chasity H. O'Stun