

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY TO INCLUDE THE
IMMINENT THREAT CAUSED BY HURRICANE MILTON**

WHEREAS, Union County has the potential to suffer impacts from severe flooding, heavy rain, and strong winds from Hurricane Milton; and

WHEREAS, Union County is expected to continue to suffer from the effects of such flash flooding, river flooding, rain and wind for some undefined period of time; and

WHEREAS, on October 6th, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 24-215, declaring a state of emergency related to the effects of Hurricane Milton, and designating the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer; and

WHEREAS, damage to homes, businesses, agricultural operations, boating, fishing, travel, and other activities and facilities, is projected due to severe flooding, heavy rain, and strong winds, which will cause severe transportation and other problems; and

WHEREAS, these conditions constitute a potential life-threatening situation for the citizens and visitors to Union County; and

WHEREAS, these conditions constitute a potential for damage to property of Union County; and

WHEREAS, the conditions constitute a potential for economic losses to the aquaculture and agriculture industry in Union County; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, provides authority for counties to declare a Local State of Emergency.

WHEREAS, the declaration of a local state of emergency under these conditions is determined to be in the best interest of Union County and its citizens.

WHEREAS, in order to be in position to provide the most effective assistance to the citizens of Union County, it is necessary that a declaration of an emergency is passed; and

WHEREAS, *Chapter 252.38(3), F. S.* provides authority for a political subdivision such as Union County to declare a Local State of Emergency and to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of political subdivisions by law pertaining to:

- To appropriate and expend funds; make contracts; obtain and distribute equipment, materials, and supplies for emergency management purposes; provide for the health and safety of persons and property, including emergency assistance to the victims of any emergency.
- To appoint, employ, remove, or provide, with or without compensation, coordinators, fire and police personnel, and other emergency management workers.
- To assign and make available for duty the offices and agencies of the political subdivision, including the employees, property, or equipment thereof relating to firefighting, engineering, rescue, health, medical and related services, police, transportation, construction, and similar items or services for emergency operation purposes, as the primary emergency management forces of the political subdivision for employment within or outside the political limits of the subdivision.
- The duration of each state of emergency declared locally is limited to 7 days; it may be extended, as necessary, in 7-day increments. Further, the political subdivision has the power and authority to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law pertaining to:
 - a. Taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community

- b. Entering into contracts
- c. Incurring obligations
- d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers
- e. Utilization of volunteer workers
- f. Rental of equipment
- g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities
- h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted by *Union County Code*, and Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*, and further pursuant to the authority provided in *Executive Order 24-215*, for the aforementioned and above-outlined reasons, the undersigned, EM Director Timothy C. Allen hereby (1) declares and proclaims a local state of emergency in Union County, Florida, for the period commencing at 0800 on October 8th, 2024 and continuing through 0800 on October 15th, 2024; and (2) activates the *Union County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* and authorizes the utilization of the emergency powers provided under Sections 252.31 through 252.62, *Florida Statutes*.

DULY PROCLAIMED this 8th day of October 2024 by the Emergency Management Director of Union County, Florida.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA



By: Timothy C. Allen, as its

Emergency Management Director

10/8/24 08:00

DATE / TIME