

Attachment B



PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY BY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

WHEREAS, Chapter 12, Sec. 12-5(a) of the Santa Barbara County Code, empowers the County of Santa Barbara, Director of Emergency Services, to proclaim a local emergency if the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, Section 8558 (c) of the Government Code defines a "Local Emergency" as: "the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, On December 4, 2017, at 1825 hours, a wildfire that has been named the Thomas Fire began burning in Ventura County. As of December 8, 2017, at 0800 hours the Thomas Fire had burned 132,000 acres in Ventura County, with just 10% containment; and

WHEREAS, On December 5, 2017, Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency for the County of Ventura for the Thomas Fire. On December 7, 2017, Governor Brown added the County of Santa Barbara to the State of Emergency for the Thomas Fire; and

WHEREAS, On December 8, 2017, President Trump proclaimed a Presidential Declaration of Emergency for the Counties of Santa Barbara and Ventura for the Thomas Fire. The Presidential Declaration also covers the Counties of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Diego for other fires burning in Southern California; and

WHEREAS, On December 8, 2017, the Thomas Fire continues to impact the County of Santa Barbara. Evacuation orders and warnings are in place. On December 4, 2017, 83,000 South County customers lost power for an extended period, and continue to experience periodic outages. Extensive smoke and ash have created hazardous air quality, which has led to the closure of most South County schools. Evacuation centers have been opened for residents and for animals. The Fire is actively burning within the Santa Ynez River watershed, which is the primary water source for the southern portion of Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Fire is causing conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County of Santa Barbara. These conditions are beyond the control of the

**PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the combined forces of Santa Barbara County Operational Area to combat; and

WHEREAS, severe fire weather is forecasted for the next few days, and the Thomas Fire is threatening major population centers; and

WHEREAS, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the County proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency in order to utilize all resources necessary to respond to the damage caused by the local emergency and receive any needed funding through the California Disaster Assistance Act and any other funding both State and Federal funds that may be available; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara is not in session.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists in the County of Santa Barbara and that;

1. All the recitals set forth above are true, correct, and valid; and
2. The conditions of extreme peril are not the results of labor controversy; and
3. This proclamation of local emergency, invokes in the County of Santa Barbara all powers and mechanisms set forth in the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code sections 8550 et seq.), Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 12 and all other applicable laws, to be used by authorized personnel of the County of Santa Barbara; and
4. Pursuant to Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 12, Sec. 12-5(b), the Director of Emergency Services is empowered to require emergency services of any county officer or employee and to requisition necessary personnel or material of any county department or agency; and
5. Copies of this Proclamation shall be provided to news media; and
6. A copy of this proclamation shall be forwarded to the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with the state law; that the Governor waive any regulations that may hinder recovery efforts and that recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act or any other State and Federal funds that may be available; and

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

7. This Proclamation of Local Emergency shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days, unless ratified by the Board of Supervisors, and extended, or unless sooner terminated.

Dated: 12-8-17

Time: 1:30 pm



County Executive Officer/
Director of Emergency Services
County of Santa Barbara