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TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE ANDY BROWN

TRAVIS COUNTY DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO WILDFIRE DANGER DUE TO SEVERE DOUGHT AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Recitals

WHEREAS, Travis County is experiencing severe heat and drought conditions creating widespread and significant wildfire danger which poses an imminent threat to persons and property within Travis County; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2023, pursuant to §418.014 of the Texas Government Code, Governor Greg Abbott issued a disaster proclamation for 191 Texas Counties (including Travis County and surrounding counties), based on the existence of wildfires beginning on July 24, 2023 that pose an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life and further certifying that such conditions continue to exist in accordance with §418.017 of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Travis County has determined from information provided by emergency management personnel, that the above conditions pose an imminent threat of severe damage, injury or loss of life or property due to the threat of wildfire danger in Travis County; and

WHEREAS, Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 authorizes the County Judge of a county to declare a local state of disaster, and exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 418.108(f) and 418.185 of the Government Code, the County Judge is authorized to order the evacuation of all of part of an area stricken or threatened by a disaster within the County if necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery and may compel persons who remain in the evacuated area to leave and authorize the use of reasonable force to remove persons from the area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code section 418.108(g), a County Judge is authorized to control ingress and egress from a local disaster area, and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that disaster area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 418.017 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor through his Disaster Proclamation has authorized the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Governor's Disaster Proclamation and pursuant to §418.109 and §418.020 of the Government Code, a local government is authorized to provide mutual aid assistance in accordance with its policies and procedures and may make arrangements necessary to acquire, prepare, or equip sites for temporary housing.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS THAT:

1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Travis County, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code due to wildfire danger caused by extreme drought and weather conditions, which pose an imminent and substantial danger to the residents and property within Travis County.

2. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Travis County, Texas.

3. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the appropriate recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the Travis County emergency management plan and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this Declaration and Order.

4. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas and the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 (Chapter 418 of the Government Code), the County may take actions necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons in the County in response to this local state of disaster, including providing disaster relief and facilitating access to food, water, shelter and to protect and rehabilitate property due to this disaster.

5. Pursuant to Section 418.173, Texas Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates any directive legally authorized and issued by this Declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to $1,000.00 or confinement for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

6. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

7. That this Declaration and proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED AND ORDERED this 15th day of August, 2023.

Andy Brown, County Judge
County of Travis, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Travis County:

Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk

Date: AUG 15 2023

STAYS IN FILE

FILED AND RECORDED
OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

Dyana Limon-Mercado

Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk
Travis County, Texas

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Aug 15, 2023 01:48 PM

Fee: $0.00 MARTINE