



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

UPDATING THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia may be subjected to emergencies and disasters of various kinds and of different magnitudes; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia will plan and prepare to implement effective responses to mitigate the effects of such emergencies and disasters, to protect public peace, health, and safety, and to preserve the lives and property of the people; and
- WHEREAS:** The Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, Code Section 38-3-1, *et seq.*, sets forth the authority and responsibility of local governments, state agencies, and the undersigned in prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from natural or man-made emergencies or hostile military or paramilitary actions; and
- WHEREAS:** Code Section 38-3-2 provides that it is the responsibility of the State to ensure that preparations are adequate to deal with emergencies or disasters resulting from manmade or natural causes or enemy attack and it is necessary to provide for the common defense, protect the public peace, health, and safety, and preserve the lives and property of the people of this State; and
- WHEREAS:** Code Section 38-3-20 tasks the Governor with appointing the Director of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, who is responsible for coordinating the activities of all organizations for emergency management and homeland security within the State, including leading the public safety response to natural disasters, homeland security activities, and other emergencies within the State; and
- WHEREAS:** Code Section 38-3-22 authorizes and empowers the Governor to exercise general direction and control over all or any part of the emergency management functions within this State, prepare a

comprehensive plan and program for emergency management, and delegate any authority vested under the Georgia Emergency Management Act; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency maintains, in collaboration with all appropriate state agencies and volunteer organizations a standardized, verifiable, performance-based, unified incident command system, to be utilized in response to emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency coordinates and lead emergency operations of all agencies, associations, authorities, boards, departments, or institutions within the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency coordinates mitigation, preparedness, prevention, response, and recovery activities in a manner consistent with the National Response Framework and the principles of the National Incident Management System; and,

WHEREAS: The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency has developed and submitted to the undersigned for review and approval the 2024 Georgia Emergency Operations Plan (the "2024 GEOP"), which sets forth the policies and procedures governing the State's preparation for and coordinated response to any disasters or all-hazard events that may occur in or otherwise impact the State of Georgia.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO CODE SECTION 38-3-22 AND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That the 2024 GEOP, attached hereto as "Exhibit 1", is hereby approved.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That Director of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, or the Director's designee, is delegated the power and authority to exercise overall direction and coordination of emergency and disaster planning and operations, as authorized by the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, Code Section 38-3-1, *et seq.*, and stated in the 2024 GEOP.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Director of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency shall be authorized to activate and deactivate the State Operations Center to support all state agencies in an emergency or disaster.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That all state and local government entities are directed to cooperate in the implementation of the provisions of the 2024 GEOP.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the 2024 GEOP shall be binding on all state agencies providing Emergency Support Functions and shall serve as the basis to assist all local governments and citizens in times of emergencies and disasters

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the coordinating, primary, and support function responsibilities for emergency management services and resources are as follows:

Emergency Support Function 1 – Transportation

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Transportation
Primary: Georgia Department of Transportation
Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 2 – Communications

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency
Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency
Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 3 – Public Works and Engineering

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Transportation
Primary: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 4 – Firefighting

Coordinator: Georgia Forestry Commission
Primary: Georgia Forestry Commission
Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 5 – Emergency Management, Information, and Planning

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency
Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency
Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Human Services
Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency
Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 7 – Logistics

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 8 – Public Health and Medical Services

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Public Health

Primary: Georgia Department of Public Health

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 9 – Search and Rescue

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Agriculture

Primary: Georgia Department of Agriculture

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 12 – Energy

Coordinator: Georgia Environmental Finance Authority

Primary: Georgia Public Service Commission; Georgia Department Agriculture

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 13 – Public Safety and Security

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Public Safety

Primary: Georgia Bureau of Investigation; Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 14 – Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Economic Development

Primary: Georgia Department of Economic Development

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 16 – Defense

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Defense

Primary: Georgia Department of Defense

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

Emergency Support Function 17 – Cyber Security

Coordinator: Georgia Technology Authority

Primary: Georgia Technology Authority

Support Agencies: As listed in the Emergency Support Function Annex of the 2024 GEOP

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the coordinating, primary, and support function responsibilities for recovery and redevelopment services and resources are as follows:

Recovery Support Function 1 – Community Planning and Capacity Building

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan, supplement to the 2024 GEOP, attached hereto as “Exhibit 2”

Recovery Support Function 2 – Economic Recovery

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Economic Development

Primary: Georgia Department of Economic Development

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

Recovery Support Function 3 – Health and Social Services

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Human Services

Primary: Georgia Department of Human Services

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

Recovery Support Function 4 – Housing

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Primary: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

Recovery Support Function 5 – Infrastructure Systems

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

Recovery Support Function 6 – Natural and Cultural Resources

Coordinator: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Primary: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

Recovery Support Function 7 – Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters

Coordinator: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Primary: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Support Agencies: As listed in the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That every department or agency of the State shall appoint an Emergency Coordinator and Alternate to serve during emergencies or disasters, and as a planning liaison to the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That each department or agency of the State shall be responsible for its Emergency Support Functions as assigned in the 2024 GEOP.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That each department or agency of the State assigned Emergency Support Function coordination responsibilities shall aid in preparation and revision of such functions, collaborate with primary and support agencies, and maintain comprehensive standard operating procedures for executing its assigned emergency services.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That each department or agency of the State assigned primary and/or support responsibilities shall assign personnel to serve in the State Operations Center and/or other state command and control facilities, maintain a twenty-four (24) hour response capability, keep required reporting systems in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, and prepare updates to the 2024 GEOP, as necessary.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That each department or agency of the State assigned primary and/or support responsibilities shall participate in scheduled exercises and shall conduct the requisite training of personnel essential to the implementation of all assigned Emergency Support Functions.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That each department or agency of the State assigned primary and/or support responsibilities shall participate in all after action discussions following activations of the 2024 GEOP to identify and complete necessary improvement actions.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That each department or agency of the State shall execute, without delay, the emergency functions so designated in the 2024 GEOP, or as further ordered or otherwise directed by the undersigned, during any emergency or disaster through the initial use of existing department or agency appropriations and all necessary department or agency personnel, regardless of normal duty assignment.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That all other agencies, associations, authorities, boards, departments, or institutions of the State not assigned a primary or support role in the 2024 GEOP shall carry out whatever duties or services that may be required during an emergency or disaster as specified or directed by the Governor or the Director of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That when the Governor declares a State of Emergency, the Department of Public Safety, with assistance from other law enforcement agencies, including the Georgia Department of Defense, shall at the direction of the Governor, be authorized to enforce criminal laws and assist with evacuations in the State, if required.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such

invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That no provision of this Order shall limit, infringe, suspend, or supplant any judicial order, judgment, or decree issued pursuant to the laws or Constitution of this State or the laws or Constitution of the United States, nor shall any person use any provision of this Order as a defense to an action in violation of a judicial order, judgment, or decree by any court created pursuant to the laws or Constitution of this State or the laws or Constitution of the United States.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That this Order does not suspend operation of any state or federal law or regulation, except as specifically described herein.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: The Director of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency shall make necessary changes to the 2024 GEOP with appropriate coordination and shall similarly promulgate additional annexes and appendices as required.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: All provisions of the Order shall become effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.

This 4th day of October 2024.


GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


EXECUTIVE SECRETARY