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INDEX DEPARTMENT

JUL 05 2022

IN THE OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

## Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, at approximately 10:15 a.m., on July 4, 2022, a gunman hiding on a rooftop opened fire on an Independence Day parade in Highland Park, Lake County, Illinois, killing six people, wounding at least 30 people, and causing hundreds to flee in terror to seek shelter; and,

**WHEREAS**, more than 100 law enforcement officers ran toward the gunshots, protecting and helping people to safety, and immediately began to search for the suspected shooter; and,

**WHEREAS**, after a coordinated effort by the Highland Park Police Department, police departments from numerous surrounding communities, Illinois State Police and federal law enforcement, police apprehended a suspect in the evening on July 4, 2022, and the mass shooting remains under investigation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the families of the six murder victims are devastated by loss and over two dozen individuals are struggling to overcome terrible injuries; and,

**WHEREAS**, many who attended the parade – including children, parents and grandparents – and many who live in Highland Park and surrounding communities have been traumatized by the evil that ripped apart a peaceful celebration of the United States of America; and,

**WHEREAS**, efforts to recover from this latest mass shooting in America are just now beginning, and the healing process for the trauma inflicted by this tragic event will require significant time and resources; and,

**WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross, Illinois Department of Human Services, and Illinois Department of Public Health have been contacted to help provide mental health counseling and other support for victims, their loved ones, and many who fled the violence at the parade, as well as others who were affected by this violent incident; and,

**WHEREAS**, many other state and local government agencies, volunteer organizations, and community-based organizations stand ready to assist with the recovery and healing processes; and,

**WHEREAS**, based on the foregoing facts, the current circumstances in Lake County, including the loss of life and injury to numerous individuals, constitute a disaster as provided in Section 4 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State of Illinois that the State will be prepared to address any disasters and, therefore, it is necessary and appropriate to make additional State resources available to ensure that all Illinoisans remain safe and secure; and,

**WHEREAS**, these conditions provide legal justification under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act for the issuance of a proclamation of disaster; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Constitution, in Article V, Section 8, provides that “the Governor shall have the supreme executive power, and shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws,” and states, in the Preamble, that a central purpose of the Illinois Constitution is “provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the people”;

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**NOW, THEREFORE**, in the interest of aiding the people of Illinois and the local governments responsible for ensuring public health, safety, and welfare, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby proclaim as follows:

**Section 1.** Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, I find that a disaster exists within the State of Illinois and specifically declare Lake County as a disaster area. The proclamation authorizes the exercise of all of the emergency powers provided in Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, including but not limited to those specific emergency powers set forth below.

**Section 2.** The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is directed to implement the State Emergency Operations Plan to coordinate State resources to support local governments in disaster response and recovery operations.

**Section 3.** To aid with emergency purchases necessary for response and other emergency powers as authorized by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, the provisions of the Illinois Procurement Code that would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the disaster are suspended to the extent they are not required by federal law. If necessary, and in accordance with Section 7(1) of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7(1), the Governor may take appropriate executive action to suspend additional statutes, orders, rules, and regulations.

**Section 4.** Pursuant to Section 7(3) of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7(3), this proclamation activates the Governor's authority, as necessary, to transfer the direction, personnel or functions of State departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency response programs.

**Section 5.** All State agencies are directed to cooperate with the Governor, other State agencies and local authorities in the development and implementation of strategies and plans to respond to and recover from the impacts of the present disaster.

**Section 6.** This proclamation can facilitate requests for federal emergency and/or disaster assistance if a complete and comprehensive assessment of damage indicates that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments.

**Section 7.** This proclamation shall be effective immediately and remain in effect for 30 days.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*



*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield, this 5th day of July, in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two, and of the State of Illinois two hundred and fourth.*

*Deese White*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR