




GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

December 13, 2018

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
1:30 PM O'CLOCK

The Honorable Rolando B. Pablos
Secretary of State
State Capitol Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

DEC 13 2018

Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-05 relating to Emergency Management of Natural and Human-Caused Events, Emergencies, and Disasters.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD/gsd

Attachment

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
December 13, 2018

EXECUTIVE ORDER GA 05

*Relating to Emergency Management of Natural and Human-Caused Events,
Emergencies, and Disasters.*

WHEREAS, natural and human-caused events, emergencies, and disasters constitute a continuing threat to the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Texas needs a coordinated and integrated approach to protect its citizens, and the infrastructure on which they rely, in the event of a natural or human-caused event, emergency, or disaster; and

WHEREAS, this coordinated effort must properly mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from any event, emergency, or disaster that may occur in this state; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, Texas Government Code, Chapter 418 (the "Act"), was enacted to:

- (1) reduce the vulnerability of people and communities of this state to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from natural or human-caused disasters, catastrophes, riots, or hostile military or paramilitary action;
- (2) prepare for prompt and efficient rescue, care, and treatment of persons victimized or threatened by disaster;
- (3) provide a setting conducive to the rapid and orderly restoration and rehabilitation of persons and property affected by disasters;
- (4) clarify and strengthen the roles of the governor, state agencies, the judicial branch of state government, and local governments in the prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from events, emergencies, and disasters;
- (5) authorize and provide for cooperation in disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery;
- (6) authorize and provide for coordination of activities relating to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery by agencies and officers of this state, and similar state-local, interstate, federal-state, and foreign activities in which the state and its political subdivisions may participate;

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- (7) provide an emergency management system embodying all aspects of pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster response;
- (8) assist in the mitigation of disasters caused or aggravated by inadequate planning for and regulation of public and private facilities and land use; and
- (9) provide the authority and mechanism to respond to an energy emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Act makes the governor responsible for meeting the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters, and for meeting disruptions to the state and people caused by energy emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the governor to issue executive orders that have the force and effect of law, including the power to delegate or assign by prior arrangement, to the greatest extent possible, command authority over state agencies, boards, and commissions having emergency responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Act creates the Texas Division of Emergency Management (the "Division") to advise and assist the governor and coordinate the state emergency management program; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the governor to establish an Emergency Management Council to advise and assist the governor in all matters relating to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order the following:

The Emergency Management Council (the "Council") shall be created and maintained. The Council shall consist of the following state agencies, boards, and commissions, and the following volunteer groups, or the successors of each of these entities:

- American Red Cross
- Public Utility Commission of Texas
- Railroad Commission of Texas *
- State Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service *
- Texas A&M University System
- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service *
- Texas A&M Forest Service *
- Texas Animal Health Commission *
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality *
- Texas Commission on Fire Protection
- Texas Department of Agriculture *
- Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- Texas Department of Information Resources
- Texas Department of Insurance

- Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
- Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
- Texas Department of Public Safety *
- Texas Department of State Health Services *
- Texas Department of Transportation *
- Texas Division of Emergency Management *
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Facilities Commission
- Texas General Land Office *
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Texas Military Department *
- Texas Office of the Attorney General
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department *
- Texas State Auditor's Office
- Texas State University System
- Texas Tech University System
- Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
- Texas Workforce Commission
- The Salvation Army
- University of Houston System
- University of North Texas System
- University of Texas System

** (indicates member of the State Emergency Response Commission)*

The Chief of the Division, or in the event of a vacancy, the person assigned to perform the duties and responsibilities of the Chief of the Division on an interim basis, shall serve as the Chair of the Council (the "Chair").

The specific duties and responsibilities of each member of the Council shall be as designated in the State Emergency Management Plan and Annexes thereto, which are prepared, developed, and maintained by the Division as directed by the Act. The head of each member shall designate one or more representatives to the Council, as requested by the Chair. The Chair also may, upon approval of the Office of the Governor, request services from other relevant state agencies on matters relating to the Council.

The Chair, after consultation with the Council and other relevant state agencies, shall advise the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives on critical matters relating to emergency management for natural and human-caused events, emergencies, and disasters that may occur in this state.

The Chair is designated the right to exercise, after consultation with the Council and upon approval of the Office of the Governor, the powers granted to me under the Act in the administration and supervision of the Act, including, but not limited to, the power to accept from the federal government, or any public or private agency, organization, or individual, any offer of services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds as gifts, grants, or loans for the purposes of emergency services and disaster preparedness, response, recovery, or mitigation efforts, and may dispense such gifts, grants, or loans for the purposes for which they are made without further authorization other than as

contained herein.

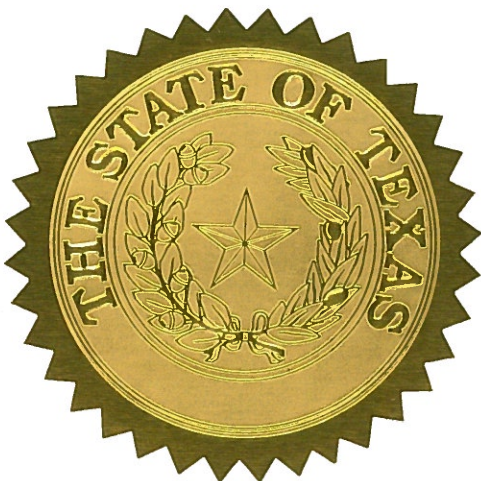
The Chair, after consultation with the Council and upon approval of the Office of the Governor, is authorized to issue such directives as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose of the Act, and is further authorized and empowered to exercise the specific powers enumerated in the Act.

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) shall be a standing element of the Council, and shall carry out those duties assigned to it by the governor or the Chair. The SERC shall consist of representatives named by the heads of the agencies and commissions marked with an asterisk (*) in the listing of the Council above. The Chair shall chair the SERC or designate a chair from amongst its members.

In compliance with Texas Government Code, Section 418.101, the presiding officer of each political subdivision shall promptly notify the Chair of the manner in which it is providing or securing an emergency management program, and of the person designated to head that program, by February 1 of each year. Within 30 days of any change of elected or appointed officials, the presiding officer shall notify the Chair of such change.

Pursuant to the Act and this executive order, the governor retains and may exercise the authority to modify the emergency management duties and capabilities of those state agencies with emergency-related responsibilities, including, but not limited to, the transfer, sharing, or coordination of personnel and equipment between agencies.

This executive order supersedes all previous orders on the matters of emergency management for natural and human-caused events, emergencies, and disasters that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms, including Executive Order RP-32, and this order shall remain in effect and in full force until modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me or by a succeeding governor.



Given under my hand this the
13th day of December, 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rolando B. Pablos".

ROLANDO B. PABLOS
Secretary of State

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