



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

November 13, 2020

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 178**

## **DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, on November 12, 2020, the State of North Carolina experienced severe weather in the form of heavy rainfall and flooding from the remnants of Tropical Storm Eta; and

**WHEREAS**, the impacts from the rains caused significant damage to the transportation infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, certain measures are necessary to ensure the protection and safety of North Carolina residents and coordinate the emergency response among state and local entities and officials; and

**WHEREAS**, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.1(4) provides that it is the responsibility of the undersigned, state agencies, and local governments to “provide for cooperation and coordination of activities relating to emergency mitigation preparedness, response, and recovery among agencies and officials of this state and with similar agencies and officials of other states, with local and federal governments, with interstate organizations, and with other private and quasi-official organizations”; and

**WHEREAS**, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 166A-19.10 and 166A-19.20 authorize the undersigned to declare a state of emergency and exercise the powers and duties set forth therein to direct and aid in the response to, recovery from, and mitigation against emergencies.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED:**

### **Section 1.**

I hereby declare that a state of emergency, as defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 166A-19.3(6) and 166A-19.3(19), exists in the State of North Carolina due to damages to the roads and other critical infrastructure as a result of the impacts from the severe weather event.

For purposes of this Executive Order, the emergency area is the entire State of North Carolina ("the Emergency Area").

### **Section 2.**

I order all state and local government entities and agencies to cooperate in the implementation of the provisions of this declaration and the provisions of the North Carolina Emergency Operations Plan (“the Plan”).



**Section 3.**

I delegate to Erik A. Hooks, the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (“DPS”), or his designee, all power and authority granted to and required of me by Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes for the purpose of implementing the Plan and deploying the State Emergency Response Team to take the appropriate actions necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the populace in North Carolina.

**Section 4.**

Further, Secretary Hooks, as Chief Coordinating Officer for the State of North Carolina, shall exercise the powers prescribed in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143B-602.

**Section 5.**

I further direct Secretary Hooks or his designee to seek assistance from any and all agencies of the United States Government as may be needed to meet the emergency and seek reimbursement for costs incurred by the state in responding to this emergency.

**Section 6.**

I hereby order that this declaration be: (1) distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (2) promptly filed with the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, the Secretary of State, and the superior court clerks in the counties to which it applies, unless the circumstances of the state of emergency would prevent or impede this; and (3) distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

**Section 7.**

This Executive Order does not prohibit or restrict lawfully possessed firearms or ammunition or impose any limitation on the consumption, transportation, sale, or purchase of alcoholic beverages as provided in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.30(c).

**Section 8.**

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.23, this declaration triggers the prohibition against excessive pricing as provided in N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 75-37 and 75-38 in the Emergency Area.

**Section 9.**

This Executive Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.

  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Elaine F. Marshall  
Secretary of State

