



# Jackson County Commission

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**Bill Nance**  
Chairman

<i>Commissioners</i>
District I
<b>Chris Gulley</b>
District II
<b>Paul Kennamer</b>
District III
<b>AJ Buckner</b>
District IV
<b>Kevin McBride</b>

## DECLARATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, as amended, the Alabama Emergency Management Act of 1955 confers upon the Jackson County Commission, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, the power to declare the existence of a local emergency under Ala. Code 31-9-10. The Code of Alabama also confers the Jackson County Commission the power to appoint the Commission Chair the authority to make such a declaration on its behalf for the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the county is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency has requested that the Jackson County Commission declare the existence of a local emergency due to the National Weather Service is forecasting that the state of Alabama may be severely affected by a series of severe weather events including straight-line winds, lightning, hail, and tornadoes, beginning in the evening hours of Friday, March 14, 2025, and continuing through the early morning hours of Sunday, March 16, 2025; and

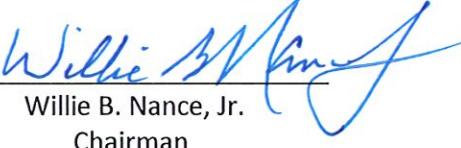
WHEREAS, this severe weather event could cause significant damage to public and private property and pose a danger to the health and safety of the people of Jackson County, including disruption of essential utility systems, personal injury, and loss of life;

WHEREAS, this severe weather event poses extraordinary conditions of disaster and of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property arising within said County, caused by, wind, rain, flooding, hail, and tornados. That the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the determination of the existence of a local emergency;

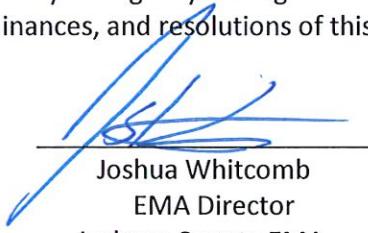
NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIE B. NANCE, JR, COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, by the authority vested in me, do hereby declare that a local State of Emergency exists in Jackson County, Alabama, as of 2:00 pm on March 14, 2025, due to the existence of conditions outlined in 44 CFR part 204.21 and that:

- 1) The local Emergency Operations Plan shall be fully executed to direct all local disaster and emergency response forces and operations in Jackson County, Alabama;
- 2) The Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director under authorities provided in the local EOP and local orders or resolutions shall take immediate actions to protect public safety and direct the provision of such assistance as can be delivered from available local resources and shall coordinate the response of all local agencies that provide assistance in Jackson County, Alabama.
- 3) All agencies in Jackson County, Alabama, shall cooperate to the fullest extent with the EMA Director, and shall provide such assistance as may be requested or required for response to this emergency.
- 4) Under this State of Emergency, the County Commission Chairman can waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by the law pertaining to:
  - (a) Performance of public work;
  - (b) Entering into contracts;
  - (c) Incurring obligations;
  - (d) Employment of temporary workers and utilizing volunteers;
  - (e) Rental of equipment;
  - (f) Purchase and distribution of supplies, materials and facilities;
  - (g) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
- (5) May make request for the Governor of the State of Alabama to make request for assistance to FEMA Region IV Administrator under criteria outlined in 44 CFR part 204.21.
- (6) This declaration and the authorized actions thereunder shall be effective in all incorporated municipalities within the territorial limits of Jackson County, unless such municipality shall affirmatively opt out of the provisions hereof. (Ala. Code 31-9-10(a).

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency shall be those prescribed by the state, by state law, by charter, ordinances, and resolutions of this County.



Willie B. Nance, Jr.  
Chairman  
Jackson County Commission



Joshua Whitcomb  
EMA Director  
Jackson County EMA