



## D 2022 005

### EXECUTIVE ORDER

#### **Extending Executive Order D 2022 004 Concerning the Disaster Emergency Due to the Marshall Fire and Straight-Line Winds in Boulder County**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order to extend Executive Order D 2022 004 that declared a state of disaster emergency due to the Marshall Fire and straight-line winds in Boulder County and enabled State and federal agencies to coordinate for fire suppression, response, consequence management, hazard mitigation, and recovery efforts.

#### **I. Background and Purpose**

The Governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the State and people presented by disasters. C.R.S. § 24-33.5-704(1). The Colorado Disaster Emergency Act defines a disaster as “the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural cause or cause of human origin, including but not limited to fire . . . .” C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3).

Around 10:30 a.m. on December 30, 2021, a grass fire was spread by high velocity, straight-line winds in Boulder County. The grass fire, which was later named the Marshall Fire, quickly spread to populated areas within Boulder County and threatened lives and structures. An estimated 6,694 homes were evacuated in Louisville, Superior, and surrounding areas in unincorporated Boulder County. Concurrently, straight-line winds in excess of one hundred miles per hour damaged residential, public, and commercial properties.

At approximately 2:10 p.m. on December 30, 2021, the Division of Fire Prevention and Control determined that the Marshall Fire exceeded county capacity and was eligible for State responsibility per the Emergency Fire Fund criteria. On December 30, 2021 at 2:18 p.m., I verbally declared a state of disaster emergency due to the Marshall Fire in Boulder County and I activated the State of Colorado Emergency Operations Plan.

Because of the severity of the Marshall Fire and the potential for continued widespread damage to private homes, commercial structures, and public infrastructure, the Division of Fire Prevention and Control requested a Federal Fire Management Assistance Grant from the Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at approximately 3:30 p.m. on December 30, 2021. The request for a Fire Management Assistance Grant was approved by FEMA's Regional Administrator at approximately 4:18 p.m. on December 30, 2021.

On December 30, 2021, I requested that the President of the United States declare a Major Disaster for the State of Colorado. The President quickly approved the Major Disaster Declaration for Colorado on December 31, 2021 to supplement State and local response and recovery efforts in the affected area. As part of the President's Major Disaster Declaration, FEMA's Public Assistance and Individual Assistance programs were approved for Boulder County.

A damage assessment on January 18, 2022 determined that the Marshall Fire and straight-line winds burned 6,080 acres, destroyed 1,086 homes and 7 commercial buildings, and damaged 205 homes and 30 commercial buildings. The current loss estimates of residential property is \$549,097,386, commercial property is \$65,994,564, and public infrastructure is \$64,985,018.

The community also mourns the confirmed death of one individual and another missing individual is presumed dead as a result of the Marshall Fire.

This Executive Order extends Executive Order D 2022 004 that declared a state of disaster emergency due to the Marshall Fire for an additional thirty days.

## **II. Duration**

This Executive Order extends Executive Order D 2022 004, which shall expire thirty (30) days from January 28, 2022, unless extended further by Executive Order, except that the funds described in Section II(E) shall remain available for the described purposes for thirty-six (36) months from December 30, 2021.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-eighth day of January 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis  
Governor