

COUNTY OF ORANGE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
and

REQUEST FOR GOVERNOR TO DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in accordance with Government Code Section 8630, a local emergency may be proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange or by an official so designated by ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-1-6 (a) of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Orange provides that, when the Board of Supervisors is in session, the Director of Emergency Services shall request the Board of Supervisors proclaim a local emergency, and when the Board of Supervisors is not in session, the Chair of the Emergency Management Council to so proclaim; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is not currently in session, and the Director of Emergency Services has requested that the Chair of the Emergency Management Council proclaim a local emergency to respond to the impacts caused by the event(s) described below; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 a fire erupted on the decommissioned Tustin Air Base in the North Hangar, a wooden structure, constructed in the 1940's and designated as a Historical Landmark; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Navy is the responsible owner of the site, including the North Hangar, but does not maintain firefighting or other equipment due to the decommissioned status; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) was dispatched to the former Tustin Air Base to respond to the rapidly progressing fire that ultimately destroyed the historic structure; and

WHEREAS, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) conducted preliminary air quality samples which showed elevated levels of chemicals of potential public health concerns; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that immediate and long-term environmental testing and remediation may be needed to protect the health and safety of the public; and

1 WHEREAS, is it unclear at this point the extent of testing or remediation that will be needed such
2 that the conditions resulting from the fire are or are likely to be beyond the capacity of the County of
3 Orange or surrounding jurisdictions to address on their own and may require the combined forces of local,
4 state and federal authorities to combat or assess; and

5 WHEREAS, the demolition, debris removal, and site remediation requirements are unknown at this
6 time; and

7 WHEREAS, a proclamation of local emergency is required in order to be eligible for state and
8 federal emergency response resources;

9 IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency exists within the geographic area of the
10 County of Orange;

11 IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that as of this date, all powers, functions and
12 duties of the emergency organization of the County of Orange shall be vested in such persons as prescribed
13 by federal and state law, by ordinances, resolutions, and by the County of Orange and Orange County
14 Operational Area Unified Emergency Operations Plan now in effect;

15 IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that as of this date, all County departments and
16 agencies take those actions, measures and steps deemed necessary to assure the safety and welfare of
17 Orange County residents and property, including requesting mutual aid to the extent such aid is necessary.
18

19 ACCORDINGLY, THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTING AS THE CHAIR
20 OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL HEREBY REQUESTS that Governor declare a
21 State of Emergency to include:

22 Request that the President of the United States make a Presidential Declaration of Emergency in and
23 for the County of Orange and make all relevant funds available to the County of Orange and all eligible
24 community members and businesses;

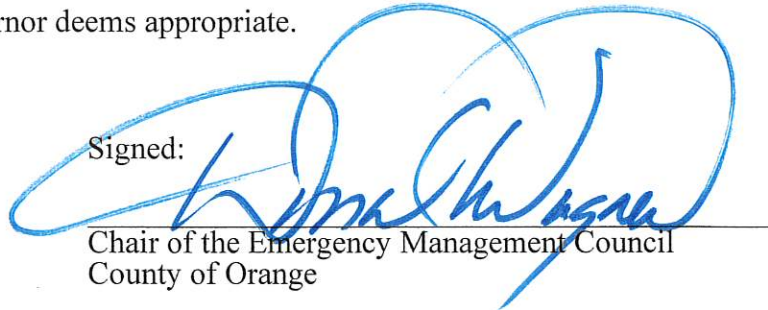
25 Request that the President direct responsible Federal agencies to prioritize response resources that
26 can address health and environmental protection, structure demolition, removal, and site remediation;

27 Authorize and direct State agencies to provide technical assistance and regulatory relief as
28 determined necessary;

1 Make all relevant funds available to Orange County and all eligible community members and
2 businesses, including but not limited to California Disaster Assistance Act funds and State Private
3 Nonprofit Organization Assistance Program funds;

4 And other actions as the Governor deems appropriate.

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6 Date: 11/9/23
7 Time: 3:35 pm

Signed: 
Chair of the Emergency Management Council
County of Orange

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