STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

IN RE: SUSPENSION OF STATUTES AND RULES PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 24-214, RELATING TO TROPICAL STORM MILTON DEM ORDER NO 24-011

EMERGENCY ORDER

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, regarding Tropical Storm Milton, declaring a state of emergency for Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Glades, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwanee, Taylor, Union, and Volusia counties; and

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Executive Order 24-214 designated the Executive Director of the Division of Emergency Management ("Division") as the State Coordinating Officer for the duration of this emergency and delegated to the State Coordinating Officer the authority to exercise those powers delineated in section 252.36(6)-(12), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2. F. of Executive Order 24-214 and section 252.36(1)(a) and (6)(a), Florida Statutes, Governor DeSantis authorized the State Coordinating Officer to suspend the effect of any statute, rule or order that would in any way prevent, hinder or delay any mitigation, response or recovery action necessary to respond to this emergency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4. B. of Executive Order 24-214, each state agency may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of that agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any such statute, order or rule would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KEVIN GUTHRIE, pursuant to Section 2 of Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, sections 252.36(1)(a) and (6)(a), Florida Statutes, and any other relevant laws, find that strict compliance with the in-person requirement for meetings and quorums of the following regulatory statutes, which prescribe the procedures for the conduct of state business, would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency: sections 125.001, 153.53(6)(a) and (8), 154.207(7), 155.12, 162.05(4), 163.526(1)(i), 166.0213, 166.041(4), 186.507(15), 189.015(3), 189.031(3)(e), 425.09(4) and (6), 425.10(4), 472.007(4), 582.19(2) and 1001.372(2) and (4), Florida Statutes.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me in Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, section 252.36(1)(a) and (6)(a), Florida Statutes, and any other relevant laws, I hereby suspend the effect of the above-referenced statutes only to the extent such statutes: (1) require physical presence for a quorum to be established; or (2) require a local government body to meet at a specific location. This Order authorizes the waiver of such requirements only to the extent necessary for local government bodies (including any subsidiary boards or advisory committees thereof) located in the counties listed in Section 1 of Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, to take necessary action in coping with the emergency.

2

This Order does not waive the requirements for local government bodies to conduct public meetings or to establish a quorum to conduct official business. However, local government bodies in the counties identified above may conduct such public meetings and establish quorums by other means, such as telephonic and video conferencing, as provided in section 120.54(5)(b)2., Florida Statutes. This Order does not waive any requirements for public meetings to be conducted in accordance with the Florida Constitution and Florida's Government in the Sunshine Laws, including Chapter 286, Florida Statutes.

This Order is effective immediately and shall expire on the same date that Executive Order 24-214 expires, to include any extensions thereto.

By Order of the State Coordinating Officer executed this 6th day of October, 2024, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

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Kevin Guthrie State Coordinating Officer Florida Division of Emergency Management 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Filed on this date, with the designated Division Clerk, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

Division Clerk

Date: October 6, 2024