

**JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA
DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on August 1st, 2024 at 12:00 PM EDT, Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 24-156 regarding a tropical wave, then identified as Invest 97L which poses a serious potential threat to the residents and property of Jefferson County (“County”), and declared a state of emergency for certain counties in the State of Florida, the County; and

WHEREAS, Invest 97L developed into Hurricane Debby; and

WHEREAS, the incoming heavy rainfall, flooding, and gusty winds caused widespread power outages due to downed trees and powerlines; and

WHEREAS, the County suffered impacts from severe flooding, heavy rain, and strong winds from Hurricane Debby, previously referred to as Invest 97L; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3)(a)5, Florida Statutes, provides authority for a political subdivision such as Jefferson County to declare a state of local emergency and to exercise emergency powers; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) adopted Ordinance No. 22-12022022-06, creating Chapter 31 of the Jefferson County Code of Ordinances and establishing emergency management procedures; and

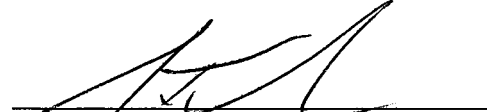
WHEREAS, there currently exist in Jefferson County emergency conditions as defined in Ordinance No. 22-12022022-06, necessitating a prompt and efficient response and recovery in order to safeguard lives and property, to exercise all statutorily authorized emergency powers, and ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 252.38(1), Florida Statutes, and Ordinance No. 22-12022022-06, as designee of the Board, the Chairman of the Board has the authority to declare local states of emergency for the entire county.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 252.38(3)(a)5., Florida Statutes and Ordinance No. 22-12022022-06, a local state of emergency is hereby declared for Jefferson County, Florida. This local state of emergency shall be in effect within the territorial boundaries of Jefferson County and began on the 30th day of August, 2024 at 8:30 A.M. EST and ends the 6th day of September, 2024 at 8:30 A.M, unless earlier terminated, and during which time the provisions of the County’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (“CEMP”) relating to this type of event shall be implemented in accordance with the Emergency Management Interlocal Agreement between the County and the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Ordinance No. 22-12022022-06.

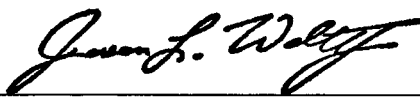
Dated this 30th day of August 2024.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA:



J.T. Surles, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



Jason Welty
Clerk to the Board