State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2026-159

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY DUE TO EXPECTED SEVERE WINTER WEATHER EVENTS AND AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR THE NEW MEXICO NATIONAL GUARD

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other forecasting agencies have reported the development of exceptionally strong El Niño conditions in the Pacific Ocean;

WHEREAS, this weather pattern greatly increases the likelihood of severe winter storms, heavy snowfall, icing events, transportation disruptions, power outages, and other hazardous conditions in portions of New Mexico;

WHEREAS, many of these events are expected to be of such magnitude as to be beyond local control and require the resources of the State of New Mexico to minimize economic and physical harm and to take actions necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare;

WHEREAS, I have issued Executive Order 2026-158, which declared an emergency due to expected severe winter weather events across New Mexico and released emergency funding to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management;

WHEREAS, in addition to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the New Mexico National Guard plays a key role in responding to natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, timely deployment of emergency personnel and resources before the arrival of severe winter weather is necessary to ensure the State's ability to respond effectively and to mitigate the consequences of anticipated weather events.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **DECLARE** a state of emergency to exist, and **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. The Department of Finance and Administration shall make available emergency financial resources in an amount not to exceed seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($750,000.00) to the New Mexico National Guard in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 12-11-23 to -25, and NMSA 1978, Sections 12-10-14 to -15. The funds shall be expended for the resources and services necessary to avoid or minimize economic or physical harm until the situation becomes stabilized; on a temporary, emergency basis for lodging, sheltering, health care, food, any transportation or shipping necessary to protect lives or public property; or for any other action necessary to protect the public health, safety, welfare, and property. The funds shall be expended in accordance with the policy and procedures of the Department of Military Affairs, as approved by the Governor or her Authorized Representative.

2. The Department of Military Affairs shall coordinate all requests for assistance and responses to such requests under the authority of and as determined by the Governor or her Authorized Representative. In addition to such other eligibility criteria as may be established by the Governor or her Authorized Representative, applicants requesting financial assistance from the State for necessary action taken in response to the emergency shall be required to demonstrate that the cost of the necessary action exceeds their available resources, as determined based upon criteria developed in conjunction with the State agencies, if any, with financial and budgetary oversight

responsibilities for the applicant.

3. The Adjutant General shall order into service any elements of the New Mexico National Guard as are or may be needed to provide military support to civil authorities as needed for this emergency. This action is pursuant to and in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 20-1-1 to -8, NMSA 1978, Sections 20-2-1 to -8, and NMSA 1978, Sections 20-4-1 to -14. Such emergency assistance shall be provided during the period of need at the discretion of the Governor or her Authorized Representative.

4. All Cabinet Departments and agencies under gubernatorial control shall provide any assistance that may be required by the Department of Military Affairs under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

I FURTHER ORDER and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until all authorized funds are expended or no longer necessary to provide emergency assistance.

ATTEST:

MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 2ND DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR