## PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA ORDER TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO DAMAGE, INJURY, AND LOSS OF LIFE OR PROPERTY RESULTING FROM AN IMMINENT THREAT EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 9, 2024

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County has been informed by its emergency management staff of the imminent threat posed by Hurricane Milton; and

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order (EO) 24-214 declaring a state of emergency in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2024, a State of Local Emergency was declared due to the imminent threat imposed by Hurricane Milton; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Milton has the capacity to pose a significant, imminent, and dangerous threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of Palm Beach County, Florida, visitors and tourists in Palm Beach County, Florida, as well as their real and personal property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Palm Beach County Code Section 9-35, the County Administrator or her designee is empowered, authorized, and directed to exercise, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, such emergency powers necessary to carry out the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to, the powers to direct and compel evacuation of all or part of the population from stricken or threatened areas within Palm Beach County, if such action is deemed necessary to reduce the vulnerability of people in communities of Palm Beach County to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from the imminent threat, as well as any other powers expressly or implicitly conferred pursuant to Chapters 125 and 252, Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law or county ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Governor Ron DeSantis in EO 24-214 and the Attorney General of Florida in Op. Atty. Gen. Fla. 95-24 have confirmed the power of counties to order evacuation of county citizens when threatened with a disaster.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, Op. Atty Gen. Fla. 95-24, EO 24-214, and Palm Beach County Code Article II, Section 9-35, I hereby find and declare:

- 1. The above recitals are true and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. I am the County Administrator of Palm Beach County, Florida.
- 3. I am duly authorized to carry out the emergency management functions delegated by the Board of County Commissioners to the County Administrator or her designee.
- 4. The following areas of Palm Beach County are threatened by Hurricane Milton and are hereby designated the "affected area:"

Evacuation Zone A
☐ Evacuation Zone B
☐ Evacuation Zone C
☐ Evacuation Zone D
☐ Evacuation Zone E
□ Other

- 5. In order to reduce the vulnerability of the population in the affected area to damage, injury and loss of life or property resulting from the imminent threat, and in order to prepare and allow for prompt and efficient restoration of order, assessment and response to damage and injuries to persons and property, I order and direct that the affected area be evacuated.
- 6. In order to reduce the vulnerability of the population in the affected area to damage, injury and loss of life or property resulting from the imminent threat, I order and direct that no persons, except those duly authorized, including law enforcement or emergency management personnel, be allowed to enter the affected area.

7. This order shall take effect at 12:00 p.m. on October 9, 2024, and will remain in effect until the State of Local Emergency is lifted, or until further order.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

Verdenia C. Baker, County Athlhistrator

Date

COUNTY

ATTEST CLERK AND COMPTROLEER

By: A Marine Marine

Deputy Cierk

Date

By: /s/ Denise Coffman, Esq.

**County Attorney**