

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION 2026-01
DECLARATION OF STATE OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County has been informed by its Fire Chief that wildfires are currently burning in Alachua County which have not been fully contained; and,

WHEREAS, the Emergency Management division has requested a declaration of a Local State of emergency to better allocate resources and execute plans for the preservation of life and property; and,

WHEREAS, it may become necessary to issue orders of evacuation and open shelters to move individuals out of harms way; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is unable to meet to consider this matter and the and in their absence the Chair may issue this proclamation as the Official Authority; and,

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Alachua County Code Section §27-07, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners sitting as the official authority hereby resolves, finds, and declares:

1. The above recitals are true.
2. A state of emergency hereby exists in Alachua County, Florida, effective for seven (7) days beginning 1:00 p.m., eastern daylight time, this 20th day of April 2026.
3. The Board of County Commissioners hereby waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of Alachua County pertaining to:
 - a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to insure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
 - b. Entering into contracts.
 - c. Incurring obligations.
 - d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers.

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- e. Utilization of volunteer workers.
 - f. Rental of equipment.
 - g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities.
 - h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
4. The County Manager, or her designee is hereby 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 declaring curfews or limiting assembly in any part of the County as necessary if such action is deemed necessary to reduce the vulnerability of people in communities of Alachua 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.
5. This authority shall extend for the period of the state of emergency, as determined by the Official Authority, or until further action by the Board of County Commissioners terminates such authority or declares that the state of general emergency has ended.
6. This proclamation shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State upon issuance.

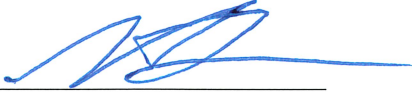
Issued this 20th day of April, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 

Ken Cornell, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

County Attorney's Office