

STATE OF FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 24-001

EMERGENCY ORDER IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 24-208 AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 24-209 (RE: POTENTIAL TROPICAL CYCLONE NINE) (TAXING AUTHORITY MILLAGE AND BUDGET HEARINGS)

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 24-208 (EO 24-208) in response to the threat of Tropical Cyclone Nine and declared a state of emergency for 41 counties in Florida including: Alachua, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Monroe, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Sumter, Suwanee, Taylor, Union, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington counties.

WHEREAS on September 24, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 24-209 (EO 24-209) in response to the threat of Tropical Cyclone Nine to add 20 additional counties to the declared state of emergency including: Baker, Brevard, Clay, DeSoto, Duval, Flagler, Gulf, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lake, Nassau, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Putnam, Seminole, St. Johns, and Volusia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM ZINGALE, Executive Director of Florida's Department of Revenue, pursuant to the authority provided in EO 24-208 and EO 24-209, hereby make the following findings:

1. On Tuesday, September 24, 2024, Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine was located 120 miles west-southwest of Grand Cayman, or 395 miles south-southwest of Key West, Florida, and is moving northwest at 8mph. Current forecast models indicate a likely possibility of significant to rapid intensification of this system, forming a major hurricane before it approaches the northeastern Gulf Coast.

2. The severity of the storm is likely to disrupt utilities and other essential services, as well as impair mobility on roads and highways located within the state.

3. Mandatory evacuations have already been issued for several coastal area counties in Florida. Mandatory evacuations are likely to be issued for additional counties as the storm continues to approach Florida.

4. The emergency preparations for, and response to, this storm may impede taxing authorities' proper performance and duties related to holding of millage and budget hearings, as well as the ability of people in this state to safely attend such hearings. Consequently, strict compliance with the provisions of statutes and rules governing these hearings may prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency presented by the storm and jeopardize the safety of people in affected counties identified above in this Order.

THEREFORE, the Department, in the interest of public safety, hereby promulgates the following **Order** to take immediate effect in the counties identified above:

Section 1. In order to ensure public access to and complete the method of fixing millage and budget processes set forth in section 200.065, Florida Statutes, taxing authorities may utilize communications media technology, such as

telephonic and video conferencing, as provided in section 120.54(5)(b)2., Florida Statutes, to conduct public hearings.

Section 2. I hereby suspend the in-person quorum requirements, to allow for a quorum to be met utilizing communications media technology at public hearings in which the method of fixing millage and budget processes are noticed on the Agenda as authorized in Section 1 of this Order.

Section 3. This Order does not waive any other requirement under the Florida Constitution and “Florida’s Government in the Sunshine Laws,” including Chapter 286, Florida Statutes, and any reasonable notice of hearing provisions contained in section 200.065, Florida Statutes.

DONE AND ORDERED this 24th day of September, 2024, in Tallahassee, Florida.

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



JIM ZINGALE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CERTIFICATE OF FILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Order has been filed in the official records of the Department of Revenue, this 24th day of September, 2024.



Mark S. Hamilton, General Counsel