

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 26-16

(Emergency Management – Extension of Executive Order 24-214 – Hurricane Milton)

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2024, I issued Executive Order 24-214, declaring a state of emergency for thirty-five counties due to the severe weather, heavy rainfall, flash flooding, river flooding, and gusty winds caused by Tropical Storm Milton; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2024, I issued Executive Order 24-215, which amended Executive Order 24-214, and extended the state of emergency to fifty-one counties; and

WHEREAS, the tropical system surged from a tropical storm to a category 5 hurricane in less than twenty-four hours on its trajectory in the Gulf of America; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, Hurricane Milton made landfall as a dangerous category 3 hurricane along Florida's Gulf Coast near Siesta Key, about five miles west of Sarasota; and

WHEREAS, the affected areas are still recovering from the damage caused by Hurricane Milton; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, and subsequently extended, expires on January 24, 2026, unless extended; and

WHEREAS, an extension of Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, is necessary because recovery efforts and those affected by this disaster require the continued support of the State of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida

Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order to take immediate effect:

Section 1. The state of emergency and all provisions of Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, are renewed for sixty (60) days following the date of this Executive Order.

Section 2. Except as amended herein, Executive Order 24-214, as amended by Executive Order 24-215, is ratified and reaffirmed.

Section 3. This Executive Order is effective immediately.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 23rd day of January, 2026.

A blue ink signature of Ron DeSantis, followed by a horizontal line and the title "RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR".

ATTEST:

A blue ink signature of Jefferey S. Esposito, followed by a horizontal line and the title "SECRETARY OF STATE".

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