

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS on December 23, 2025, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in Imperial and San Bernadino Counties due to a powerful storm system that moved through the region beginning on September 18, 2025 ("Mid-September 2025 Storm"); and

WHEREAS the Mid-September 2025 Storm, fueled by tropical storm Mario, also significantly impacted Kern County; and

WHEREAS the Mid-September 2025 Storm produced exceptionally high winds, heavy rainfall, flash flooding, mudslides, and debris flows threatening life and safety, structures, and other critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS the Mid-September 2025 Storm caused damage to roads, infrastructure, and public utilities throughout Kern County, significantly damaging the Rand Communities Water District resulting in a boil water notice for impacted residents; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to the Mid-September 2025 Storm in Kern County; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the Mid-September 2025 Storm, by reason of its magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the extreme peril posed by the Mid-September 2025 Storm; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of Mid-September 2025 Storm.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Kern County due to the Mid-September 2025 Storm.

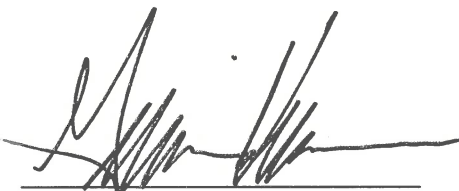
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government shall utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, all individuals are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance, if appropriate, under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.
3. The restrictions set forth in Penal Code section 396, which are automatically triggered upon proclamation of a state of emergency, are suspended, and no such restrictions are imposed, with respect to the Mid-September 2025 Storm in Kern County.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have
hereunto set my hand and caused
the Great Seal of the State of
California to be affixed this 21st day
of September 2026.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



SHIRLEY WEBER, PH. D
Secretary of State

