

Executive Order No. 2015-11

WHEREAS, severe winter weather will occur throughout the State of South Carolina between February 25, 2015 and February 28, 2015 which has been reported by the National Weather Service as a Winter Watch or Warning for a significant number of counties in this state; and

WHEREAS, temperatures are forecast below freezing, making road conditions extremely hazardous for the general public, endangering the health, safety and welfare of South Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the winter weather storm are expected to require assistance for stranded motorists, isolated citizens, medical emergencies, downed trees, and power outages, surpassing the capabilities of local governments to respond to and recover from its effects, thus requiring state support for local governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Governor, pursuant to the Constitution and Statutes of the State of South Carolina, I hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in Abbeville, Aiken, Anderson, Calhoun, Cherokee, Chester, Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Edgefield, Fairfield, Florence, Greenville, Greenwood, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Marlboro, McCormick, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Richland, Saluda, Spartanburg, Sumter, Union and York counties in South Carolina.

FURTHER, I direct the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan to be placed into effect and require state agencies to support the responsibilities and tasks therein. I further direct prudent response actions be taken at the individual, local, and state levels to respond against the effects of this event.

FURTHER, I hereby place specified units and/or personnel of the South Carolina National Guard on State Active Duty pursuant to my authority under Section 25-1-1840 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, and I will do so by directing the Adjutant General to issue supplemental orders. I further order the utilization of the South Carolina National Guard's personnel with appropriate equipment, at the discretion of the Adjutant General and in coordination with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, to take necessary and prudent actions to assist the citizens of this state.

Further proclamations and regulations deemed necessary to ensure the fullest protection of life and property during this state of emergency shall be issued orally by me and thereafter reduced to writing within the succeeding twenty-four hour period.

This order takes effect at 1:00 p.m. today.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH
CAROLINA, THIS 25th DAY OF
FEBRUARY, 2015.**

**NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor**