

1 **RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE DECLARATIONS OF A LOCAL STATE OF**
2 **EMERGENCY IN FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA DUE TO THE IMPACT OF**
3 **HURRICANE HELENE, THE IMPACT OF THE BIOLAB FIRE; AND FOR OTHER**
4 **PURPOSES.**

5 **WHEREAS**, beginning on September 26, 2024, Fulton County, Georgia has
6 experienced an event of critical significance as a result of Hurricane Helene; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County, Georgia has been impacted by dangerous weather
8 conditions associated with Hurricane Helene commencing on September 26, 2024; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Governor has declared a state of emergency for Georgia,
10 including the area encompassing Fulton County, Georgia; and

11 **WHEREAS**, a fire at the BioLab location in Conyers, Georgia ignited on Sunday,
12 September 29, 2024, resulting in a large plume of smoke and chemicals being released
13 into the air in Metropolitan Atlanta; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the plume from the BioLab fire has made its way to the vicinity of
15 Fulton County, Georgia; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of Fulton County, Georgia is the
17 Fulton County Board of Commissioners; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners is empowered to provide
19 for the health, safety, and welfare of the residents, employees, businesses and visitors
20 within Fulton County; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in the judgment of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, with
22 advice from the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, there exists
23 emergency circumstances located in Fulton County, Georgia requiring extraordinary and
24 immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the

1 citizens of Fulton County, including individuals with household pets and service animals;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency has
4 requested that Fulton County, Georgia declare a state of local emergency in order to
5 coordinate the response between federal, state and local officials; and

6 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Fulton County Code Sec. 1-73, the Chairman of Fulton
7 County, Georgia is authorized to sign all official papers and other instruments and
8 documents on behalf of the Board of Commissioners as directed or authorized by
9 ordinance, resolution, or policy of the Board of Commissioners; and

10 **WHEREAS**, on September 26, 2026, due to existence of
11 emergency circumstances that could not be delayed until the Board of Commissioners
12 could address the emergency at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 2, 2024, the
13 Chairman of Fulton County took action on the emergency by executing a Declaration of
14 Emergency for Fulton County, Georgia, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Emergency Declaration is to immediately prevent
16 or minimize injury to people and damage to property resulting from the impact of
17 Hurricane Helene; and

18 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the authority granted to the Fulton County Board of
19 Commissioners under section (a) of its home rule powers found at GA CONST Art. 9, §
20 2, ¶ 1(a) and by Fulton County Code Sec. 1-117, the Fulton County Board of
21 Commissioners finds it necessary and to be in the best interest and safety and welfare of
22 its citizens to ratify and authorize all actions taken by the Fulton County Chairman on

1 September 26, 2024 relating to the signing of the Declaration of Emergency for Fulton
2 County, Georgia.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of
4 Commissioners finds and declares that weather conditions require the declaration of a
5 local state of emergency encompassing all of Fulton County, Georgia as a result of the
6 impact from Hurricane Helene and that this local state of emergency shall continue until
7 the conditions requiring this declaration are abated in order to protect the public health,
8 preserve public safety, minimize damage to property and for the economic benefit of the
9 impacted areas in Fulton County.

10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners
11 finds and declares that the BioLab fire and resulting chemical reactions require the
12 declaration of a local state of emergency encompassing all of Fulton County, Georgia and
13 that this local state of emergency shall continue until the conditions requiring this
14 declaration are abated in order to protect the public health, preserve public safety,
15 minimize damage to property and for the economic benefit of the impacted areas in Fulton
16 County.

17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners
18 hereby ratifies all action taken by the Chairman of Fulton County on September 26, 2024,
19 including signing and effectuating the Declaration of Emergency for Fulton County,
20 Georgia, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners
22 hereby authorizes a Declaration of Emergency for Fulton County, Georgia related to the
23 BioLab fire and resulting chemical reactions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SO PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 2nd day of October, 2024.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FULTON
COUNTY**

David L. Smith

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman, At Large

Attest:

John R. Linn



Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission

Approved as to Form:

M. Aor Ar

Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney

ITEM # 27-0016 FRM.
FIRST REGULAR MEETING



**ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**
130 Peachtree Street SW | Suite G-157 | Atlanta, GA 30303
Office (404-612-5660) | afcema@afcema.com

Declaration of Emergency

WHEREAS: Fulton County, Georgia has experienced an event of critical significance as a result of Hurricane Helene on September 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS: Fulton County, Georgia has been impacted by dangerous weather conditions associated with Hurricane Helene commencing on September 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS: The governor has declared a state of emergency for the State of Georgia, including Fulton County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS: In the judgment of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, acting through the Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, with advice from the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, there exists emergency circumstances located in Fulton County, Georgia requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Fulton County, including individuals with household pets and service animals; and

WHEREAS: To prevent or minimize injury to people and damage to property resulting from this event, certain actions are required.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under section (a) of its home rule powers found at GA CONST Art. 9, § 2, ¶ 1(a);

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that a local state of emergency exists and shall continue until the conditions requiring this declaration are abated.



**ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**
130 Peachtree Street SW | Suite G-157 | Atlanta, GA 30303
Office (404-612-5660) | afcema@afcema.com

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. The Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency activate the Emergency Operations Plan.
2. The Deputy Director of the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency shall exercise such powers and responsibilities granted under state and local law to alleviate the emergency within Fulton County and restore Fulton County to pre-emergency conditions; and
3. The Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, through its Deputy Director, along with Fulton County elected officials, shall be authorized to request and use such resources made available by state and federal agencies as required to effectuate their responsibilities.

EFFECTIVE this 26th day of September 2024.

DocuSigned by:

Robert L. Pitts

BA715B1A26544E7

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)
Fulton County board of Commissioners

Attest To By:

DocuSigned by:

Tonya R. Grier

EEC476C4837648D

Tonya R. Grier

Clerk to the Commission Signed by:

Approved as to Form:



Signed by:

Y. Soo Jo by KWB

493528588287111

Y. Soo Jo
County Attorney

YSJ



**ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**
130 Peachtree Street SW | Suite G-157 | Atlanta, GA 30303
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RECOMMENDED ON BEHALF OF THE ATLANTA FULTON COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Signed by:


Richard "Dick" Anderson
County Manager