



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-097

AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, multiple wildfires burned hundreds of thousands of acres throughout the State of New Mexico beginning in April of 2022;

WHEREAS, New Mexicans in several counties were evacuated from their homes due to the severe and dangerous nature of the fires;

WHEREAS, the wildfires were of such magnitude as to be beyond local control and required the resources of the State of New Mexico, as well as other states partnered through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), to minimize economic or physical harm; take immediate action necessary to protect the peace, health, and safety; and preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of New Mexico;

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has incurred significant expenditures in assisting and housing New Mexicans evacuating their communities;

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that federal disaster assistance will be available to the State of New Mexico to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by these wildfires, but many of these funds are not yet available; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management requires additional emergency funding at this time to continue assisting those impacted by the wildfires and reimburse other states that assisted with the initial emergency response.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Howie Morales, Lieutenant Governor of the State of New Mexico and acting Governor pursuant to Article V, Section 7 of the New Mexico Constitution, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **DECLARE** an emergency situation exists, and **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. The Department of Finance and Administration shall make available emergency financial resources in an amount not to exceed seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 12-11-23 to -25, and NMSA 1978, Sections 12-10-14 to -15. The funds shall be expended on resources and services for wildfire disaster relief, including reimbursing other states that assisted with the initial emergency response. The funds shall be expended in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, as approved by the Governor or her Authorized Representative.

2. The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall coordinate all requests for assistance and responses to such requests under the authority of and as determined by the Governor and her Authorized Representative. In addition to such other eligibility criteria as may be established by the Governor or her Authorized Representative, applicants requesting financial assistance from the State shall demonstrate that the cost of the assistance exceeds their available resources, as determined based upon criteria developed in conjunction with the state agency, if any, with financial and budgetary oversight responsibilities for the applicant.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until all authorized funds are expended or no longer necessary to provide emergency assistance.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 26TH DAY OF JUNE 2023

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



HOWIE MORALES
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

