



**The State of Maryland**  
**Executive Department**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
**01.01.2024.03**

**Declaration of a State of Preparedness**

- WHEREAS The State of Maryland is subject to a variety of hazards and disasters, including an impending emergency as defined in Section 14-101(c) of the Public Safety Article of the Maryland Code;
- WHEREAS, Pursuant to Executive Order 01.01.2023.20, the Governor may declare a State of Preparedness when he determines that there is a significant risk of a public emergency as defined in the Maryland Emergency Management Act, Md. Code, Public Safety Article§ 14-301;
- WHEREAS, The declaration of a State of Preparedness ensures a proactive, forward-leaning State response to potential or actual emergencies;
- WHEREAS, Having been advised and informed by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management that, as a result of the severe weather expected to impact the State, there is a significant risk of: tidal and aerial flooding resulting from ground saturation; a six-feet-above flood state that may possibly lead to road closures, debris, inundation; heaviest rainfall coinciding with high tides Tuesday evening into Wednesday morning; and significant wind gusts estimated at 65 to 75 miles per hour along the Atlantic coast;
- WHEREAS, Action is needed to prepare to protect the lives and property of Maryland residents and visitors that may be impacted by the severe weather;
- WHEREAS Transportation, power utility, water utility, and other critical infrastructures may be negatively affected by the impacts of the storms; specifically, high winds and flooding may result in downed power lines, trees, and debris causing significant power outages statewide, transportation interruptions, infrastructure damage, ice accumulation and bridge closure; and
- WHEREAS State and local government agencies may require additional resources and support to implement proactive actions and meet the public safety and welfare needs of Maryland residents who may be negatively impacted by the

storm and require sheltering needs due to the freezing rain, snow, and ice accumulation possible in some regions of the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, AND BASED ON THE ABOVE FINDINGS, HEREBY DECLARE THAT A STATE OF PREPAREDNESS EXISTS IN THE STATE AND THAT PREPARATIONS MUST BE MADE FOR THE ANTICIPATED JANUARY 9 SEVERE WEATHER, AND HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- A. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management is hereby directed to coordinate the State preparedness and response to impacts of severe weather.
- B. All other appropriate State authorities are hereby authorized to activate their emergency preparedness plans and engage, deploy, use, and coordinate available resources in furtherance of those plans.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 9th Day of January 2024.



ATTEST:

Wes Moore  
Governor

Susan C. Lee  
Secretary of State