STATE OF KANSAS

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GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

September 2, 2026

Members of the Legislative Coordinating Council:

On August 21, 2026, I proclaimed a State of Disaster Emergency for Wyandotte County due to damages caused by multiple rounds of severe thunderstorms accompanied by strong straight-line winds, downburst winds, and hail that occurred August 18-19. The impacts from the severe storms caused significant damages to individual homes and businesses.

State, local, and mutual aid resources from surrounding municipalities have been actively engaged in power utility restoration and clearance of vegetative debris from the public right-of-way in the impacted area. In addition, multiple voluntary and faith-based organizations have provided assistance to the Unified Government of Kansas City and Wyandotte County with feeding emergency responders and residents impacted by the storm; the removal of vegetative debris from private property to the right-of-way for debris removal task forces to retrieve; and assist with reconnecting meter boxes to structures that were damaged as a result of the storm.

Extending the State of Disaster Emergency is necessary to ensure that Kansas maintains the ability to coordinate ongoing recovery support. For these reasons, and pursuant to KSA 48-924, I respectfully request that the Legislative Coordinating Council extend the State of Disaster Emergency through October 4, 2026. This extension preserves the state's ability to posture effectively to support Wyandotte County's short-term recovery needs. Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to the safety and well-being of Kansans.

Respectfully,

Laura Kelly

Laura Kelly
Governor of Kansas

STATE OF KANSAS

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF DISASTER EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Kansas Emergency Management Act, Chapter 48, Article 9, of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, to meet the inherent dangers of disasters to which the State and its citizens have been exposed, and upon advice of the State Adjutant General as the Director of the Division of Emergency Management, I hereby proclaim a State of Disaster Emergency as follows:

NATURE OF THE DISASTER:
Multiple rounds of severe thunderstorms accompanied by strong damaging straight-line winds, large hail, and heavy rainfall impacted areas of central and eastern Kansas, late on August 18, 2026, into the early morning of August 19, with significant impacts in the Kansas City metro region. The storm impacts include damage to critical infrastructure, essential facilities, residential homes, and businesses. Response and recovery efforts have exceeded the capability and capacity of local and state resources and additional support will be needed to rebuild critical infrastructure impacted by the severe storms.

DATE THAT DISASTER AFFECTED THE AREA:
August 18, 2026, and continuing

AREA AFFECTED BY THE DISASTER:
Wyandotte County

I hereby proclaim, direct and order the Adjutant General of the State of Kansas to activate the disaster response and recovery portions of the Kansas Response Plan and to utilize all available resources of the state to cope with the disaster as necessary. The Adjutant General shall coordinate local and inter-jurisdictional disaster plans applicable to the political subdivisions of areas affected by this Proclamation.

Any or all of the powers conferred upon the Governor by the Kansas Emergency Management Act may be delegated to the Adjutant General as deemed appropriate during this period of proclaimed State of Disaster Emergency. This may be delegated by written orders, or oral orders subsequently reduced to writing with reference to this Proclamation.

I hereby suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the order or rules and regulations of any state agency which implements such statute, if strict compliance with the provisions of such statutes, order or rule and regulation would prevent, hinder, or delay in any way necessary action in coping with the disaster as set forth in KSA 48-925(c)(1).

This Proclamation shall be filed promptly with the Division of Emergency Management, the Office of the Secretary of State and each city clerk or county clerk, as appropriate, in the area to which this Proclamation applies. Further dissemination of this Proclamation shall occur by means calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public.

PROCLAIMED on the 21st day of August, 2026, and **MEMORIALIZED** on the 26th day of August, 2026, under the Great Seal of the State.

BY THE GOVERNOR: _____

Secretary of State

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Assistant Secretary of State