

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 12-192 (Emergency Management/Extension of Executive Order 12-140)

WHEREAS, the State of Florida continues to recover from the cumulative impact of Tropical Storm Debby; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2012, Executive Order 12-140 was issued due to the threat of Tropical Storm Debby; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 12-140 will expire on August 24, 2012, unless extended; and

WHEREAS, the following counties continue to recover from the effects of Tropical Storm Debby: Baker, Bradford, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Franklin, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Nassau, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, and Wakulla Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has advised that it was unable to access many locations within the above listed counties to assess damage following the impact of Tropical Storm Debby due to rising floodwaters, and that it needs additional time to complete damage assessments; and

WHEREAS, floodwaters have not fully receded and recent rains are continuing to raise river levels and increase flooding within areas of the above listed counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. Because of the foregoing conditions, I declare that the effects of Tropical Storm Debby continue to threaten the State of Florida and as a consequence of this danger a state of emergency exists in the above listed Florida counties. Therefore, I extend Executive Order 12-140 for thirty days from the date of this Order, but only to the following extent:

A. I designate the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer for the duration of this emergency and direct him to activate the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery, and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency. Pursuant to section 252.36(1)(a), Florida Statutes, I delegate to the State Coordinating Officer the authority to exercise those powers delineated in sections 252.36(5)-(10), Florida Statutes, which he shall exercise as needed to meet this emergency, subject to the limitations of section 252.33, Florida Statutes. In exercising the powers delegated by this Order, the State Coordinating Officer shall confer with the Governor to the fullest extent practicable. The State Coordinating Officer shall also have the authority to:

1. Invoke and administer the Emergency Management Assistance Compact ("EMAC") (sections 252.921-.933, Florida Statutes) and other compacts and agreements existing between the State of Florida and other states, and the further authority to coordinate the allocation of resources from such other states that are made available to Florida under such compacts and agreement so as best to meet this emergency.

2. Seek direct assistance from, and enter into agreements, with any and all agencies of the United States Government as may be needed to meet this emergency.

3. Direct all state, regional, and local governmental agencies, including law enforcement agencies, to identify personnel needed from those agencies to assist in meeting the needs created by this emergency, and to place all such personnel under the direct command and coordination of the State Coordinating Officer to meet this emergency.

4. Designate Deputy State Coordinating Officers.

5. Enter into such orders as may be needed to implement any or all of the foregoing powers.

B. I also find that the special duties and responsibilities resting upon the Division of Emergency Management, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Transportation in responding to this emergency may require them to waive or deviate from the statutes, rules, and orders they administer. I delegate to the Division of Emergency Management, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Transportation the authority to waive or deviate from such statutes, rules, or agency orders to the extent that such actions are needed to cope with this emergency, including, but not limited to, any and all statutes, rules, or orders that affect budgeting, leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, conditions of employment, and the compensation of employees. Any waiver or deviation from any statutes, rules, or orders shall be by emergency rule or order in accordance with sections 120.54(4) and 252.46, Florida Statutes, and shall expire fifteen days from the date of this Executive Order unless extended in increments not exceeding fifteen days, and in no event shall remain in effect beyond the date of effectiveness of this Order, as extended.

Section 2. This Executive Order shall expire thirty days from this date, unless extended.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 20th day of August, 2012.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED
2012 AUG 20 PM 1:10
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA