

**SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE**  
**DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**  
**BY**  
**SHELBY COUNTY MAYOR LEE HARRIS**  
**February 4, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, This Executive Order to declare a State of Emergency, is made by the Mayor of Shelby County, Tennessee for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service has forecast severe weather for this region including Shelby County, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, Freezing rain, sleet, ice, and snow weather conditions began on Wednesday evening, February 2, 2022, and has continued through Friday, February 4, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, The current weather conditions have the potential to increase the risk of personal harm to persons in Shelby County; and

**WHEREAS**, These extreme, severe weather conditions have created dangerous conditions resulting in downed trees, loss of power, disrupted travel, and have further caused damage to homes, businesses, public property, threatening the safety of the citizens and property throughout Shelby County. Ice and poor driving conditions exist on the roads, especially bridges and overpasses, in Shelby County; and

**WHEREAS**, These extreme conditions require emergency needs including, but not limited to, sheltering and emergency protective measures for residents who are without adequate shelter, and expenditures of funds for other measures to protect individuals and property in Shelby County; and

**WHEREAS**, In consideration of these extreme weather conditions and the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Shelby County, it is in the public's interest that a Local State of Emergency be declared by the Mayor of Shelby County, Tennessee pursuant to authority of Tenn. Code Ann. § 58-8-104, Tenn. Code Ann. § 58-2-110(3)(A), and such other authority granted by law vested in the Mayor of Shelby County, Tennessee for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEE HARRIS, MAYOR OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE**, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me, do hereby direct and order the following:

1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared for the area within Shelby County, Tennessee.
2. As authorized by Tenn. Code Ann. § 58-2-110(3)(A), Shelby County Government will:
  - (a) As necessary, appropriate and expend funds; make contracts; obtain and distribute equipment, materials, and supplies for emergency management purposes; provide for the health and safety of persons and property, including emergency assistance to the victims of any emergency; and direct and coordinate the development of emergency management plans and programs in accordance with the policies and plans set by the Federal and State Emergency Management Agencies;
  - (b) As necessary, appoint, employ, remove, or provide coordinators, rescue teams, fire and police personnel, and other emergency management workers;
  - (c) In addition to the primary Emergency Operations Center, establish, as necessary, one or more secondary emergency operation centers to provide continuity of government and direction and control of emergency operations; and
  - (d) Request state assistance or, as needed, invoke emergency-related mutual-aid assistance in the event of an emergency affecting another political subdivision.

**FURTHER**, All agencies, departments and divisions of Shelby County Government shall discharge their responsibilities as deemed necessary for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare consistent with the provisions of this Declaration of a Local State of Emergency.

**FURTHER**, As the County Executive of Shelby County, Tennessee, I, Lee Harris, exercise the authority given me under Title 58 of the Tennessee Code to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the security, well-being and health of the citizens of this county.

**FURTHER**, I hereby direct all agencies, departments and divisions of Shelby County to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure, and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary.

**FURTHER**, The duration of this state of emergency will commence at 12:00 a.m., February 4, 2022, and will continue until 11:59 p.m., February 10, 2022 unless it is necessary to extend it by Executive Order for additional seven (7) day increments as permitted by law.

Signed by me, Lee Harris, this 4<sup>h</sup> day of February 2022.



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LEE HARRIS, MAYOR  
SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

# Shelby County Government

Shelby County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office



February 4, 2022

The Honorable Bill Lee  
Office of the Governor  
Tennessee State Capitol  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 600 Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd  
Nashville, TN 37243

RE: REQUEST FOR DISASTER DECLARATION

Dear Governor Lee:

Under the provisions of Section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR 206.35, I respectfully request that you declare a state of emergency for Shelby County, Tennessee for the aftereffects of the recent winter storm. The winter storm has caused severe damage to the utility infrastructure, leaving a significant portion of the population of Shelby County without power. The preliminary damage estimate provided to West Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) by Memphis, Light, Gas and Water (MLGW) is over **\$11,000,000.00** as of February 4, 2022. The county's per capita loss threshold for a disaster is **\$3,811,950.40**.

On February 2, 2022, the local National Weather Service issued an Ice Storm Warning. During the evening hours of February 2, 2022, freezing rain, sleet, ice, and snow began accumulating and continued through Friday, February 4, 2022. The freezing precipitation formed on trees and powerlines creating a calamitous situation throughout Shelby County. There were over one hundred seventy-five (175) calls related to downed trees and powerlines on Thursday, February 3, 2022, and the numbers are increasing.

# Shelby County Government

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Weather conditions are improving, however, thousands of public entities, community facilities, businesses and citizens are without power. We anticipate the damage amount will continue to rise. At the height of the storm, over one hundred thirty-two thousand (132,000) customers were without utilities.

Our primary concern is that Shelby County get back to a fully operational status in order to serve the citizens of this county. Therefore, I respectfully submit for your consideration this request for disaster assistance and further request that it be forwarded to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for additional consideration. It is our desire that Shelby County receive a Presidential Declaration of Emergency to allow the public assistance program to support our county which has suffered significant damages.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you should need any further details or information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Harris", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Mayor Lee Harris  
Shelby County, Tennessee