

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, beginning on July 4, 2026, and continuing into July 5, 2026, a significant fire developed at a large commercial warehouse facility located in Parkersburg, Wood County, West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the fire subsequently intensified and spread throughout the facility, resulting in a large-scale and complex fire suppression operation requiring the response of fire departments, emergency medical services, law enforcement agencies, emergency management personnel, and other public safety partners from throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the size, intensity, and duration of the fire have created significant demands upon local emergency response resources and may require continued assistance from state agencies and other governmental and private-sector partners; and

WHEREAS, smoke and products of combustion from the fire have created actual or potential threats to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing incident has resulted in road closures and other disruptions and may require continued fire suppression operations, air-quality monitoring, environmental assessment, public health actions, emergency public information, logistical support, and other response and recovery activities; and

WHEREAS, the full extent of the impacts resulting from the fire, including potential environmental, public health, infrastructure, and economic impacts, remains under assessment; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude and complexity of this incident may exceed the capabilities and resources available to local governments and emergency response organizations and require coordinated assistance from the State of West Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, and in view of the foregoing, do hereby **FIND AND DECLARE** that a State of Emergency exists and continues in Wood County, West Virginia, and that said State of Emergency is to remain in effect for fourteen days unless terminated by subsequent Proclamation. In response to this State of Emergency, I hereby **DIRECT** the West Virginia Emergency Management Division and all appropriate state agencies to coordinate with local officials and provide all necessary and appropriate assistance to protect lives, property, public health, and the environment. I further **DIRECT** Emergency Management Division and all appropriate state agencies to support fire suppression and emergency response operations; conduct necessary monitoring and assessment activities; provide logistical and technical assistance; and undertake other actions necessary to respond to and recover from this emergency. I further **AUTHORIZE** the use of all necessary state resources and personnel to support response and recovery operations and **DIRECT** state agencies to take appropriate actions consistent with their statutory authorities and responsibilities in response to this emergency.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of
Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Fifth
Day of July, in the Year of our Lord, Two
Thousand Twenty-Six, in the One Hundred
Sixty-Fourth Year of the State.



By the State

Patrick Morissey
GOVERNOR

Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE