

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

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DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY WITHIN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA DUE TO ANTIPLICATED WINTER STORM IMPACTS

Whereas, on January 21, 2026, the Governor of North Carolina declared a statewide State of Emergency due to the anticipated impacts of a winter storm expected to affect North Carolina beginning on or about January 24, 2026; and

Whereas, weather forecasts indicate that Montgomery County is likely to experience hazardous winter weather conditions, including snow, ice, freezing rain, and/or dangerously low temperatures, which may result in unsafe travel conditions, power outages, damage to public and private property, and disruption of essential services; and

Whereas, these anticipated winter storm impacts constitute a “state of emergency” as defined in Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

Whereas, the Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners has determined that these conditions pose an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life and property within Montgomery County, to the extent that public safety authorities may be unable to maintain public order or provide adequate protection for lives and property without the declaration of a State of Emergency; and

Whereas, declaring a State of Emergency and activating emergency response authorities is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare, to coordinate emergency response and recovery efforts, and to secure and protect public and private property.

Now therefore, pursuant to the authority vested in the **Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners** under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Article III of Chapter 16 of the Montgomery County Code, the Chair does hereby order as follows:

1. Declaration of Emergency.

A State of Emergency is hereby declared within all areas of Montgomery County that are not located within the corporate limits of any municipality.

2. Municipal Inclusion.

This State of Emergency shall extend to and cover all areas within the corporate limits of any municipality within Montgomery County for which the mayor or governing board submits an official written request in writing to be included in this declaration, which shall be attached hereto upon receipt.

3. Public Advisory.

All residents and visitors within Montgomery County are advised to make necessary preparations for hazardous winter weather conditions and to exercise extreme caution, particularly with respect to travel, exposure to freezing temperatures, power outages, and icy or snow-covered roadways.

4. Emergency Operations Center.

The Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center is activated and shall be staffed as necessary to coordinate response and recovery efforts related to this emergency.

5. Coordination and Enforcement.

All Montgomery County law enforcement officers, employees, and emergency management personnel subject to the control of the Board of Commissioners shall cooperate in the implementation and enforcement of this declaration, the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Plan, and all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

6. Emergency Shelter.

An emergency shelter is hereby opened at **Page Street Elementary School, 897 Page Street, Troy, North Carolina 27371**, beginning at **12:00 p.m. on January 24, 2026**, and shall remain open **until no longer needed** as determined by Montgomery County Emergency Management. The availability, hours of operation, and conditions of use of the shelter shall be coordinated through Montgomery County Emergency Management and communicated to the public through official County channels.

7. Public Information.

Residents are encouraged to monitor official Montgomery County press releases, emergency notifications, and social media platforms for updates regarding weather conditions, emergency shelters, warming centers, road closures, and other emergency-related information.

8. Distribution.

This declaration shall be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the public; filed with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners; and distributed as necessary to ensure proper implementation.

9. Effective Date and Duration.

This declaration shall take effect upon its execution on January 22, 2026, indicated by the signature of the Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners below, and shall remain in effect until January 27, 2026, unless modified, extended, or rescinded.

ADOPTED AND DECLARED this 22 day of January, 2026.



Jeffrey Pope

Chair, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

