



**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF GILPIN, STATE OF COLORADO**

**ORDER DECLARING A DISASTER IN AND FOR GILPIN COUNTY PURSUANT TO C.R.S. 24-33.5-709**

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, provides procedures for statewide and local prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3), a "disaster" is defined to mean, "the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural cause or human origin, including but not limited to fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, hazardous substance incident, oil spill or water contamination requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage, volcanic activity, epidemic, air pollution, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, civil disturbance, or hostile military or paramilitary action, or a condition of riot, insurrection, invasion"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, a local disaster may be declared, "only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 30-10-307 and 308 as amended, the chair of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is the principal executive officer of Gilpin County and, in the absence of the chair, the chair pro tem is, or in their absence, the County Manager is statutorily authorized by prior delegation from the Board of County Commissioners to act as the principal executive officer in said capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), the declaration of a local disaster, "shall not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision;" and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), any order declaring, continuing, or terminating a local disaster, "shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the county clerk and recorder;" and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2), the effect of declaring a local disaster, "is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans"; and

**WHEREAS**, by declaring a local disaster, the Gilpin County Disaster Policies are in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on Wednesday at 2 p.m. on March 13, 2024 snow began to fall in Gilpin County from a strong winter snow storm which continued through Thursday March 14, 2024 resulting in snowfall totals in Gilpin County of up to, and in excess of three feet, and up to more than five feet in some locations. An additional fifteen inches of snow are projected today and more snow is projected to continue through Friday March 15 and possibly the



morning of Saturday March 16, adding to those snow totals; and

**WHEREAS**, this severe weather has resulted in preventing any safe travel to and from Gilpin County, has overwhelmed local law enforcement and emergency services, and has generally created dangerous conditions for all. Also, the snow has a very high water content making it very heavy, resulting ineffective snow removal unless more plows and equipment are made available to every location; and

**WHEREAS**, all jurisdictions with Gilpin County have suffered a disaster as defined under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3); and

**WHEREAS**, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovering from the impact of this disaster exceeds Gilpin County's available resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, by the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners, County of Gilpin, State of Colorado, that a disaster emergency is declared in the County of Gilpin, Colorado, beginning at 1:49 p.m. MST on Thursday, March 14, 2024, and ending at 1:49p.m. MST on Thursday, March 21, 2024.

ADOPTED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024, by a vote of 3 to 0.

ATTEST:

Sharon Cate  
Deputy County Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF GILPIN, COLORADO

Susan Berumen  
Chair

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF COLORADO )

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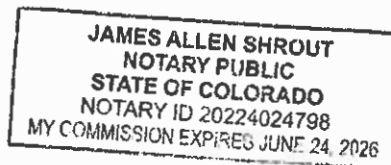
COUNTY OF GILPIN )

Sharon Cate

Susan Berumen, Chair, and ~~Lynsey Denton~~, Deputy County Clerk, County of Gilpin, acknowledged the foregoing Resolution before me this 18 day of March, 2024.

Witness my hand and official seal

James A. Shrout  
Notary Public





## DISASTER DECLARATION

Two (2) copies shall be sent to:  
State of Colorado  
Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM)  
9195 E Mineral Ave Centennial Co  
Suite 200

One (1) copy will be forwarded to the Governor by DHSEM

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WHEREAS, Gilpin County suffered or there is an imminent threat that Gilpin County will suffer from widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from impact of catastrophic winter storm which occurred on March 14th, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the is far in excess of the County's available resources due to the impact of the winter storm. County emergency response resources are severely limited in capacity numbers of personnel, limited road access due to excessive snow, snow plowing resources unable to keep up with excessive snowfall, and high priority life safety winter sheltering needs for stranded motorists and power loss.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, there is hereby declared a local disaster.

APPROVED this 14 day of March, 2024.

*Sheriff Kevin Armstrong*  
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Sheriff, Gilpin County Sheriff's Office  
Gilpin County, Colorado