

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

EO 20-29

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS: Our citizens have the right to peacefully assemble and protest and the State of Arkansas is committed to protecting those rights; and

WHEREAS: Recent assemblies and protests occurring in the State of Arkansas have been overtaken by destructive and violent individuals, creating conditions of distress for the citizens and businesses of the state; and

WHEREAS: The rule of law must be maintained for the protection of citizens and businesses from violence and damage; and

WHEREAS: There is a need to take protective actions to protect lives and property of citizens being currently impacted by this emergency; and

WHEREAS: Additional resources of the State of Arkansas are needed to help relieve the conditions of distress and hazard to the safety and welfare of the citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS: An invocation of the provisions of A.C.A. § 12-61-111 and A.C.A. § 12-61-115 is appropriate to ensure the safety and welfare of our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Arkansas, including A.C.A. § 12-61-111 and A.C.A. § 12-61-115, do hereby declare a State of Emergency exists in the State of Arkansas and do hereby direct the following:

1. I do hereby direct the Arkansas State Police, as the lead agency, together with Sheriff Offices and Police Departments in those jurisdictions impacted by this emergency, to operate as a Unified Command to protect civil rights, and ensure public safety.
2. I further order that Sheriff Offices and Police Departments shall have command and operational control over security in their respective jurisdictions relating to areas of protests, acts of civil disobedience and conduct otherwise arising from such activities.
3. I further order that the Unified Command may assume command and operational control in such jurisdictions it deems necessary to protect civil rights and ensure public safety and that other law enforcement agencies shall assist the Unified Command when so requested and shall cooperate with operational directives of the Unified Command.
4. I further order the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, through its Director, to engage, deploy, and coordinate available resources, in accordance with A.C.A. § 12-75-110-111, as may be necessary to carry out requests processed through the Unified Command and ordered by the Governor of the state to protect life and property and support civilian authorities.

5. I further order, pursuant to A.C.A. § 12-61-111 and A.C.A. § 12-61-115, the Adjutant General of the State of Arkansas, or his designee, to forthwith call and order into active service such portions of the organized militia as he deems necessary to protect life and property and assist civilian authorities and it is further directed that the Adjutant General or his designee, to take such action, to include establishing an arming order and employing non-lethal methods in accordance with Arkansas law and to employ such equipment as may be necessary to carry out requests processed through the Unified Command and ordered by the Governor of the state to protect life and property and support civilian authorities.

This Executive Order shall become effective upon its signing, and shall expire in thirty (30) days unless extended in whole or in part by subsequent Executive Order.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 2nd day of June, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor