

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

IN RE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
HURRICANE HELENE

DBPR EO 2024-12

EMERGENCY ORDER

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2024, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 24-208, declaring a state of emergency for the state to prepare for and respond to the impact of Potential Tropical Cyclone 9, which became a named storm, Hurricane Helene, on September 25, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on September 24, 2024, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 24-209, thereby amending, ratifying, and reaffirming Executive Order 24-208, to declare a state of emergency in the following 61 Counties: Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Brevard, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington; and

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2024, 64 of Florida's 67 Counties were under a watch or warning related to Hurricane Helene; and

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2024, Hurricane Helene made landfall on Florida's Gulf Coast as a major hurricane and caused significant damage across the state, including significant wind, flood, and water damage to residential and commercial properties; and

WHEREAS, Section 4.B. of Executive Order 24-208 provides each state agency authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of the agency if strict compliance with the provisions of any such statute, order, or rule would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation's timely execution of disaster mitigation, response, and recovery functions of the State's emergency management

plan, as it relates to Hurricane Helene, would be hindered by the application of certain provisions imposed by statute, order, or rule; and

WHEREAS, the Department filed Amended Emergency Order 2024-08 on September 29, 2024, which in part suspended and tolled various deadlines and geographic scope limitations, and waived fee provisions, filed Emergency Order 2024-09 on October 3, 2024, which suspended specific license requirements for public lodging establishments to mitigate the burdens associated with Hurricane Helene, and filed Emergency Order 2024-10 on October 11, 2024, which suspended specific license requirements relating to mold remediation for water damaged property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Melanie S. Griffin, Secretary of Florida's Department of Business and Professional Regulation, pursuant to the authority granted to me by Executive Order 24-208, as amended by Executive Order 24-209 and Executive Order 24-213, find that timely execution of the mitigation, response, and recovery aspects of the State's emergency management plan, as it relates to Hurricane Helene, is negatively impacted by the application of certain regulatory statutes related to the Department, and order the following:

Certified Contractors, Registered Contractors, and Mold Remediators

1. The provisions of section 489.113(3), Florida Statutes, are suspended to the extent that a certified or registered general, building, or residential contractor is not required to subcontract roofing work for the repair or installation of any roof type when providing contracting services.
2. The provisions of section 489.117, Florida Statutes, are suspended to the extent that registered contractors are not subject to the geographical scope limitations or requirements as provided in sections 489.117(1)(b) and (c), Florida Statutes, when providing contracting services. Registered contractors shall provide their state registration, proof of compliance with applicable workers' compensation as required by Chapter 440, Florida Statutes, and liability and property damage insurance as required by section 489.115(5)(a), Florida Statutes, to the jurisdiction in which the work is being performed. Additionally, registered contractors working outside the geographical scope of their registration in compliance with this Order are not guilty of unlicensed contracting, as defined in section 489.13(1), Florida Statutes, for the time that this Order is in effect.
3. The provisions of section 489.513, Florida Statutes, are suspended to the extent that registered electrical and alarm system contractors are not subject to the geographical scope limitations or requirements as provided in section 489.513(5), Florida Statutes, when providing contracting services. Registered electrical and alarm system contractors shall provide their state registration, proof of compliance with applicable workers' compensation as required by section 440.09, Florida Statutes, and otherwise required

within Chapter 440, Florida Statutes, and liability and property damage insurance as required by section 489.515(1)(b), Florida Statutes, to the jurisdiction in which the work is being performed. Additionally, registered electrical and alarm system contractors working outside the geographical scope of their registration in compliance with this order are not committing an act of unlicensed contracting, as described in section 489.532, Florida Statutes, or practicing beyond the scope of a certification or registration, as specified under section 489.533(1)(s), Florida Statutes, for the time that this Order is in effect.

4. Paragraphs one through three shall continue to be applicable to all projects for which a building permit has been applied for or obtained during the effective date of this Emergency Order or applied for and obtained under Amended Emergency Order 2024-08. The scope of this order, including the Counties covered, may be amended by subsequent order.
5. For clarification, the installation of non-permanent, emergency tarps to relieve damage caused by Hurricane Helene falls within the exemptions listed in section 489.103(6), Florida Statutes. This shall not abrogate any local ordinances regarding permits or inspections that may exist.
6. The provisions of Part XVI of Chapter 468, Florida Statutes, including sections 468.8419 and 468.842, Florida Statutes, are suspended to the extent that a business or person engaging in mold remediation while removing water damaged personal property and water damaged building materials from hurricane related water damaged properties shall not be required to be licensed as a mold remediator under Chapter 468, Florida Statutes, so long as they are not holding themselves out for hire to the public as mold remediators or otherwise engaging in mold remediation, during the pendency of this Emergency Order.

Drugs, Devices, and Cosmetics

7. The change of location fee of \$100.00 when an onsite inspection is required, and \$25.00 when an onsite inspection is not required, pursuant to Rule 61N-1.018(4)(f), Florida Administrative Code, is waived during the pendency of this Emergency Order.

Hotels, Restaurants, and Elevator Safety

8. The provisions of section 509.032(3), Florida Statutes, and Rule 61C-1.002(3)(a)4., Florida Administrative Code, as they relate to sponsors of temporary food service events providing notice of temporary food service events to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants, and the duty of public food service establishments and other food service vendors to obtain an individual license for each temporary food service event, are amended and suspended. Sponsors of temporary food service events must provide advanced notice to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the temporary food service event before the event at

<https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hotels-restaurants/licensing/temporary-food-establishment/>. Temporary food service events, public food service establishments, and other food service vendors must comply with all sanitation provisions at temporary food service events.

9. The provisions of section 509.102(1)(b) and 509.102(3), Florida Statutes, and Rules 61C-1.002(6)(a)3 and 61C-4.0161(3)(c), Florida Administrative Code, as they relate to the time that a public food service establishment may operate a temporary commercial kitchen, the location of a temporary commercial kitchen, the requirement that a public food service establishment provide notice of a temporary commercial kitchen to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants, and the requirement that a mobile food dispensing vehicle only serve food in individually portioned and packaged or pre-packaged containers, are amended and suspended. Public food service establishments operating a temporary commercial kitchen must provide advanced notice to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the temporary commercial kitchen before opening at <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hotels-restaurants/licensing/temporary-food-establishment/>.
10. The following permit fees associated with replacing, relocating, and repairing elevators regulated by the Department, where such replacement, relocation, or repair arises from the damage caused by Hurricane Helene are hereby waived for elevators having a current license issued by the Department:
 - a. The \$250 fee required by section 399.03(2), Florida Statutes, and Rule 61C-5.006(1)(a)1, Florida Administrative Code, for installing an elevator.
 - b. The \$250 fee required by section 399.03(2), Florida Statutes, and Rule 61C-5.006(1)(a)1, Florida Administrative Code, for relocating an elevator.
 - c. The \$200 fee required by section 399.03(2), Florida Statutes, and Rule 61C-5.006(1)(a)2, Florida Administrative Code, for altering an elevator.
11. Due to anticipated statewide labor and material shortages, the provisions of section 399.03(4), Florida Statutes, and Rule 61C-5.006(1)(c), Florida Administrative Code, are suspended to the extent that a permit issued to install, relocate, or alter an elevator will not expire or become invalid if the work authorized by such permit is not commenced within six months after the date of issuance or within a shorter period of time as the Department may specify at the time the permit is issued. Additionally, a permit issued to install, relocate, or alter an elevator will not expire or become invalid if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 60 days or such shorter period of

time as the Department may specify at the time the permit is issued, after the work has started.

12. The provisions of section 509.013(4)(a), Florida Statutes, are suspended to the extent that a public lodging establishment may rent for any period of time, regardless of the public lodging establishment's classification as a transient public lodging establishment or a nontransient public lodging establishment, to individuals whose residences were rendered uninhabitable due to destruction or damage by Hurricane Helene. Accordingly, no public lodging establishment shall be subject to penalty by the Department, a county, a municipality, a governmental entity, a governmental authority, or the like, for exceeding the durational limitations within section 509.013(4)(a), Florida Statutes, during the pendency of this Emergency Order for rentals to individuals whose residences were rendered uninhabitable due to destruction or damage caused by Hurricane Helene.
13. The provisions of section 509.242(2), Florida Statutes, are suspended to the extent that an existing public lodging establishment shall not be required to obtain separate licensure if, due to guest rental durations of individuals whose residences were rendered uninhabitable due to destruction or damage caused by Hurricane Helene, 25 percent or more of the units in the public lodging establishment fall within a classification that is different from the classification that the public lodging establishment is licensed, during the pendency of this Emergency Order.

Veterinarians

14. The \$200.00 fee required by Rules 61G18-25.001(1)(b) and 61G18-12.010, Florida Administrative Code, for the issuance of a temporary license to out-of-state veterinarians during an emergency as described by section 474.2125, Florida Statutes, is suspended.

Location Change Fees


15. The relocation fees for the following licenses are suspended during this emergency:
 - a. Barbershop: The \$130 total relocation fee for all categories of Barbershop licenses, which includes a \$125 transfer fee, pursuant to section 476.184(7), Florida Statutes, and the special fee of \$5 to combat unlicensed activity, pursuant to section 455.2281, Florida Statutes.
 - b. Cosmetology Salon: The \$95 total relocation fee for all categories of Cosmetology Salon licenses, which includes a \$90 transfer fee, pursuant to section 477.025(7), Florida Statutes, and the special fee of \$5 to combat unlicensed activity, pursuant to section 455.2281, Florida Statutes.
 - c. Veterinary Premises: The \$250 permit fee for Veterinary Premises permits, pursuant to section 474.215(1), Florida Statutes.

- d. Veterinary Limited Services: The \$25 location registration fee for Veterinary Limited Services permits, pursuant to section 474.215(7)(a), Florida Statutes.
- e. Talent Agencies: The \$25 location change fee for all Talent Agency licenses, pursuant to section 468.404(3), Florida Statutes.
- f. Real Estate Offices: The \$69 total relocation fee for adding an additional branch to a pre-existing Real Estate branch license, for a Corporation, Partnership, Limited Liability Company, or Limited Liability Partnership, which includes a \$64 fee pursuant to Rule 61J2-1.011(6)(b), Florida Administrative Code, and section 455.219, Florida Statutes, and the special fee of \$5 to combat unlicensed activity, pursuant to section 455.2281, Florida Statutes.
- g. Real Estate Schools: The \$50 total application fee for adding a Real Estate School Additional Location to pre-existing Real Estate School license, which includes a \$45 fee pursuant to Rule 61J2-1.011(4)(b), Florida Administrative Code, and section 455.219, Florida Statutes, and the special fee of \$5 to combat unlicensed activity, pursuant to section 455.2281, Florida Statutes.

This Emergency Order shall be effective during the timeframe beginning upon the execution of the Emergency Order and shall expire on November 22, 2024, or upon rescission of Executive Order 24-208, as modified or extended, or upon earlier order by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

DONE AND ORDERED in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida this 31st day of October 2024.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION



Melanie S. Griffin, Secretary
2601 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Filed on this date, with
The designated Agency Clerk,
Receipt of which is hereby
acknowledged.

Ronda L. Bryan

Agency Clerk's Office
Date: October 31, 2024