

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, numerous forest fires burned across West Virginia beginning Wednesday, March 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Eastern Panhandle experienced several fires, with well over 200 acres burning across the region, especially in parts of Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, and Pendleton Counties, posing a threat to the health, safety, welfare, and property of the citizens of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with my authority as Governor, I have declared a State of Emergency for Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, and Pendleton Counties of the State of West Virginia to enable the most effective response possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, 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 in Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, and Pendleton Counties, said State of Emergency to remain in effect for thirty days unless terminated by subsequent Proclamation. In response to this State of Emergency, I have **INVOKED** the emergency powers set forth in West Virginia Code §15-5-6; **UTILIZED** the Emergency Operations Plan, as necessary; **ORDERED** appropriate personnel and resources, as may be deemed necessary, to mobilize and respond to the emergency; and **DELEGATED** certain administrative powers to the Director of the West Virginia Emergency Management Division, as necessary, to facilitate the provision of essential emergency services.

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 Twenty-First Day of March, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, in the One Hundred Sixty-First Year of the State.



By the State

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Justice".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mpc Warner".

SECRETARY OF STATE