State of Florida

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 80-29
(Disaster Preparedness)

WHEREAS, there exists an ever-present threat of major disaster resulting from natural or accidental causes or nuclear war; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the State of Florida to take every measure to insure the safety and well-being of its citizens and their property; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive plans for the disaster preparedness of Florida and the emergency management of resources have been adopted and promulgated pursuant to Florida Statutes; and in support of such plans, it is necessary that the departments, agencies and services of state and local governments make effective preparation to discharge emergency responsibilities for management of the severest conditions of possible disaster and to promote rapid recovery from the effects thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BOB GORMAN, Governor of the State of Florida, acting under the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and all other authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Florida, in order to facilitate execution of the state's comprehensive disaster preparedness plans and programs, do hereby direct the actions and delegate the emergency responsibilities as set forth in this order:

1. Each department, agency, office or unit of the state and each county, municipality or other jurisdiction of the state, shall make appropriate plans and take measures for the protection of its personnel, equipment, supplies, and essential records and documents against the probable effects of disasters resulting from natural or accidental causes or enemy attack; for the continuity of government by providing for emergency interim succession to office as authorized by the laws of Florida; for the
relocation of the seat of such government and resumption of essential activities; for the suspension of such non-essential functions or services as may be required to meet delegated emergency responsibilities and shall maintain a state of readiness to provide for the prompt execution of emergency disaster preparedness operations and resources management plans.

2. Responsibility for preparation and (at least) annual testing and evaluation of emergency plans and implementing procedures shall rest with each department or agency head of the state government and the governing body of each county of the state. Such responsibility may be redelegated; however, the department head or governing body shall approve all such plans, procedures and evaluations and assure their coordination with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Public Safety Planning and Assistance and their consistency with the rules of that Division.

3. All departments and agencies of state government shall perform emergency functions as designated in the promulgated plans of the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Public Safety Planning and Assistance, and shall make available other resources of such agencies as necessary for the disaster preparedness of Florida and the United States of America.

4. Political subdivisions of the state (counties) shall, and municipalities may, by interlocal agreement or otherwise, take pre-emergency action as prescribed in Chapter 232, including, but not limited to, the following:

a. Establish and maintain an organization for disaster preparedness.

b. Each local disaster preparedness agency created and established pursuant to the provisions of this act shall have a director appointed by and his annual salary fixed by the board of county commissioners of the county, or the governing body of a city or town, as appropriate; provided, however, that no person shall be appointed or reappointed as a director unless such person shall have first been approved for such appointment by the director of the Division of Public Safety Planning and Assistance.
c. Develop emergency plans for disaster preparedness and emergency resources management consistent with the comprehensive state plans.

d. The governing body of each political subdivision of this state is authorized to develop and enter into interlocal agreements with other public entities and private agencies within the state for reciprocal disaster aid and assistance. In time of emergency, it shall be the duty of each local disaster preparedness agency to render assistance in accordance with the provisions of such agreements to the fullest extent possible.

e. Establish and maintain an Emergency Operating Center for the conduct of emergency governmental operations during a period of crisis and select an alternate site for use in case of necessity.

f. Nothing contained in this order shall prevent local jurisdictions from taking prompt and necessary action to save lives and protect the property of their citizens, including the authority to compel and direct timely evacuation when necessary in the absence of the Governor's directive.

5. All state agencies and all counties, municipalities and other jurisdictions shall report to the Bureau of Disaster Preparedness any information which bears on disaster preparedness responsibilities.

6. Upon publication of this Executive order, Executive Order Number 76-4 and all other such orders and administrative directives not consistent herewith are revoked.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 4th day of April, A.D. 1986.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE