

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

2026-08

WHEREAS, wildfires have adversely impacted the State of Georgia and other neighboring States, causing significant and widespread devastation and creating life-threatening conditions that necessitate the State of South Carolina providing emergency assistance in the affected areas; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and the State of South Carolina are parties to and members of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, as set forth in section 25-9-420 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, which provides that the State of South Carolina shall render mutual aid upon request and subsequent to the declaration of a state of emergency or disaster by the governor of a party State that is to receive assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Georgia has declared that an emergency or disaster exists in the State of Georgia, and the State of Georgia has requested assistance from the State of South Carolina pursuant to the terms of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, as provided in section 25-9-420 of the South Carolina Code of Laws; and

WHEREAS, upon consultation with the Adjutant General of South Carolina and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (“EMD”), the undersigned has determined that South Carolina National Guard personnel, resources, and equipment shall respond to the aforementioned request for mutual aid and emergency assistance; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina National Guard is prepared to provide the personnel, resources, and equipment necessary to assist the impacted areas and to fulfill the request from the State of Georgia for assistance in responding to the declared emergency or disaster in accordance with the terms of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby direct the Adjutant General to place specified units or personnel of the South Carolina National Guard on State Active Duty, to issue the requisite supplemental orders as he deems necessary and appropriate, and to utilize the South Carolina National Guard personnel, resources, and equipment requested through EMD to fulfill the mission in support of the State of

Georgia. South Carolina National Guard personnel and equipment deployment and mission requirements shall be coordinated through EMD, in consultation with the Office of the Governor, in accordance with the terms of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. This Order is effective immediately and, in accordance with Article IV of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, shall remain in effect for so long as the exercises for mutual aid are in progress, the state of emergency or disaster remains in effect in the State of Georgia, or the loaned resources remain in the State of Georgia, whichever is longer.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 24th DAY OF
APRIL, 2026.**

HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State