EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 08-27

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN MULTNOMAH AND COLUMBIA COUNTIES DUE TO SEVERE WINTER WEATHER

Pursuant to ORS 401.055, I find that severe winter weather including heavy snow, freezing rain, ice and damaging winds has created a threat to life safety and property in Multnomah and Columbia Counties. These conditions have resulted in road closures, stranded motorists, extreme cold temperatures, power outages and many areas of inaccessibility.

In Multnomah and Columbia counties, recent snow and ice storms have made a significant number of roads inaccessible to emergency vehicles or emergency related vehicles and the counties have not been able to obtain equipment locally to remove snow and ice from the roadways. The inability of emergency vehicles and emergency related vehicles to access people who are suffering from serious medical conditions creates immediate life, health and safety issues.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED:

1. The Oregon Military Department’s Office of Emergency Management shall implement the State’s Emergency Operations Plan, and coordinate with state and local agencies impacted by this severe weather event.

2. The Oregon National Guard shall provide the necessary manpower and equipment necessary to respond to requests from Multnomah and Columbia counties received by Oregon Emergency Management to facilitate response to this storm event.

These findings were made verbally on December 22nd, 2008 at 3:30 p.m.
Done at Salem, Oregon this 22nd day of December, 2008.

Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE