

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PROCLAMATION

September 2021 - "Orange County Preparedness Month"

WHEREAS, it is critical for every community, business, family, and individual in Orange County to be prepared for natural and man-made disasters, including tornadoes, flooding, and hurricanes, as well as disease outbreaks like COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Orange County has seen a high activity of severe weather – in 2020, the National Weather Service issued 13 Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, 4 Flash Flood Warnings, 4 Flood Warning, and 3 Tornado Warnings; and

WHEREAS, Orange County experienced an estimated \$1.2 million in estimated damages from severe weather in 2020; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Hurricane Florence brought significant rainfall in September, and was followed by Tropical Storm Michael in October, with both storms causing widespread power outages and flooding, and Florence resulting in more than \$26 million in damages while Michael exceeded \$500,000; and

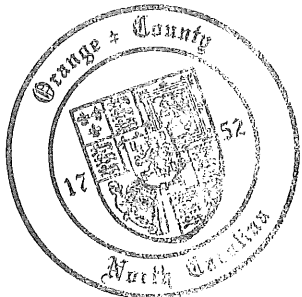
WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Chair to the Board of County Commissioners declared a State of Emergency to coordinate the County’s response and protective actions to address the COVID-19 public health emergency and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the Orange County community; and

WHEREAS, community members can take a few simple steps – creating an emergency supply kit, making a family disaster plan, and staying informed – to help make preparedness a personal responsibility and improved health a priority in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Emergency Services Emergency Management Division, along with emergency managers throughout the nation, has collaborated to recognize September as National Preparedness Month, and encourage Orange County community members to stay informed and prepared;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby declare September 2021 as "Orange County Preparedness Month."

This the 14th Day of September, 2021.



Renée A. Price

Renée Price, Chair
Orange County Board of Commissioners