



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

9711 Farrar Court, Suite 200, North Chesterfield, Virginia 23236
TEL 804.267.7600 TDD 804.674.2417 FAX 804.272.2046

Lauren B. Opett
State Coordinator

Cheryl J. Adkins
Chief Deputy State Coordinator

August 21, 2026

Mr. Michael Maul Director
Department of Planning and Budget
1111 East Broad Street, #5040
Richmond, VA 23219

SUBJECT: Justification to Continue Sum Sufficient Emergencies and Disasters;
Reporting Requirement – Special Session I, 2026 Appropriation Act – Item 401 A.1

Dear Mr. Maul,

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) requests the following actions for emergencies and disasters that the Governor authorized sum sufficient funding. The continuation of the following disasters will allow the Commonwealth to fulfill its obligations to its partners for their disaster response and recovery activities. Disasters with an (S) indicate state disasters, and those with an (F) are federal.

Hurricane Matthew October 2016 (F)
Hurricane Florence 2018 (F)
Hurricane Michael 2018 (F)
Flooding, February 6, 2020 (S)
Winter Storm February 2021 (F)
Winter Storm January 3 -9, 2022 (F)
Winter Storm January 16, 2022 (S)

COVID-19 Mitigation Grant Match (F)
Buchanan County Flood, July 2022 (F)
Tropical Storm Debby, August 2024 (S)
Hurricane Helene, September 2024 (F)
Winter Storm January 2025 (S)
Winter Storm February 2025 (F)
Winter Storm February 2026 (S)

Mr. Michael Maul
Page 2
August 21, 2026

At this time VDEM will close ten disasters and relinquish the remaining authority for those disasters. The rest of the disasters will remain open to reconcile the state and local projects. After assessing the authorized amounts of all disasters VDEM would like to relinquish in total \$4,684,892.08 in authority back to the Commonwealth.

Disaster	Status	Relinquish Funds
Governor's Donation Program	Closed	\$290,058.07
2021-01 Civil Unrest	Closed	\$327,945.57
Buchanan Flood - Aug'21 (EO81)	Closed	\$425,960.51
Winter Storm, Jan 16, 2022 (EO85)	Open	\$285,538.85
Winter Storm, Jan 20, 2022 (EO12)	Closed	\$200,210.53
Winter Storm, Jan 28, 2022 (EO15)	Closed	\$323,974.77
SW Virginia Floods, Jul'22 (EO21)	Closed	\$180,989.06
Hurricane Ian, Sep'22 (EO22)	Closed	\$202,207.23
Tropical Storm Ophelia, Sep'23 (EO27)	Closed	\$173,760.34
Wildfires - Mar'2024	Closed	\$2,060,604.94
EMAC - Florida - Hurricane Milton - Oct'2024	Closed	\$213,642.21
Total		\$4,684,892.08

Sincerely,



Lauren Opett
State Coordinator

CC:

The Honorable L. Louise Lucas, Chairwoman of the Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Luke E. Torian, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Stanley M. Meador, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Dillon Taylor, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Neely Thompson, Department of Planning and Budget
Cheryl Adkins, Chief Deputy State Coordinator, VDEM