

RESOLUTION 2026 - 009

JANUARY FREEZING WEATHER EVENT – LOCAL STATE OF
EMERGENCY

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL
EMERGENCY DUE TO EXTREME FREEZING WEATHER EVENTS;
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 252, FLORIDA STATUTES AND PUTNAM
COUNTY ORDINANCES, ARTICLE II, SPECIFICALLY SECTIONS 16-19
THROUGH 16-26; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, The State of Florida and Putnam County are experiencing an imminent threat of personal injury and property damage due to extreme cold weather impacts, which Putnam County is under a freeze warning, which is forecast to temperatures below freezing for extended periods of time daily, through the next seven days, for the Putnam County area; and with regard to adverse and significant impacts to agriculture and livestock; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes and Section 16, Putnam County Code of Ordinances, the declaration of an emergency in Putnam County, Florida is hereby issued by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Emergency Operations and Preparedness or their Designee, shall function as the County Coordinating Officer. All Government agencies shall coordinate with the County Emergency Operations Center for all requests for assistance through the appropriate Emergency Support Function; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to be in a position to protect all individuals in the county and maximize all available resources; and

WHEREAS, all Putnam County assets and personnel are hereby ordered to be placed at the disposal of the County Coordinating Officer; and

WHEREAS, any County regulations prescribing procedures for the conduct of County business, if strict compliance would hinder necessary action in coping with the emergency are hereby suspended. Suspension of such procedures shall be at the direction of the County Administrator and/or County Coordinating Officer or his/her designee; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to ensure all possible efforts are being made to protect human life and property. The Emergency Management Ordinance 96-14 and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan are hereby activated and Putnam County Emergency Management / County Coordinating Officer shall have the authority to take all actions necessary to preserve the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and property of Putnam County

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Declaration of a Local State of Emergency:

The above recitals are true and correct and hereby incorporated as a material part of this resolution as if fully stated herein.

The imminent of extreme cold weather, combined with anticipated impacts to agriculture constitutes a serious threat to health, safety and welfare of the people and property of Putnam County, Florida and that a State of Local Emergency is hereby declared, effective immediately, for the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Putnam County.

The County Administrator and/or County Coordinating Officer or his or her Designees are authorized to take all action necessary and appropriate to secure resources to protect human life and property and to utilize all lawful authority granted to the County under State and County laws as necessary to accomplish same.

Section 2. Direction to Clerk:

The Clerk shall record this Resolution in the Public Records of Putnam County, Florida and shall transmit a certified copy to the Putnam County Property Appraiser.

Section 3. Effective Date:

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect for seven (7) days unless extended pursuant to Section 4 of this Resolution or rescinded by the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 4. Authorization to Extend:

The Board of County Commissioners recognize the circumstances and conditions which necessitate the foregoing Resolution may extend beyond seven (7) days, and therefore, the Board of County Commissioners hereby authorize Chairwoman Wilkinson to extend the local State of Emergency in her sole discretion. Any subsequent extension shall be reported to the Board of County Commissioners at the following regularly scheduled Board of County Commission meeting.

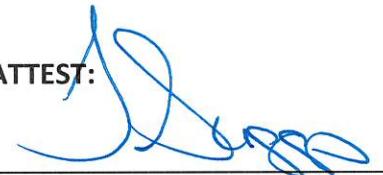
PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED, effective immediately, by the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Florida, this 28th day of January 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 

Leota Wilkinson,
Chairwoman

ATTEST:



Terry Suggs,
County Administrator