

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

EXECUTIVE RULE NO. 432

Declaration of Emergency Due to the Impacts of Federal Immigration Enforcement Actions

1. Multnomah County is authorized under ORS 401.305 to act as an emergency management agency, including the authority to establish policies and protocols for defining and directing responsibilities during emergencies.
2. Multnomah County has enacted a local ordinance, Multnomah County Code § 25.410 et seq., pursuant to the authority granted by ORS 401.025 et seq. and the Multnomah County Charter, that provides for executive responsibility in times of emergency and specifically delegates authority to declare a state of emergency to the County Chair.
3. The Chair is authorized, pursuant to Multnomah County Code § 7.007, to adopt Executive Rules to implement and enforce provisions of the Multnomah County Code and to carry out the Chair's duties under the Charter.
4. Multnomah County is home to a diverse and vibrant community of people representing many races, ethnicities, and nationalities, including immigrants and refugees from all over the world.
5. More than 13% of Multnomah County residents were born outside of the United States.
6. Multnomah County has long recognized and valued the diverse contributions of all individuals, affirming its commitment to upholding the dignity and respect of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, immigration or refugee status, heritage, culture or religion.
7. On December 22, 2016, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution No. 2016-132 reaffirming Multnomah County's sanctuary status and ensuring continued access to County resources and services regardless of immigration status.
8. In January of 2020 the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners passed Resolution No. 2020-002 in support of refugee resettlement within Multnomah County.
9. Jurisdictions across Oregon, including the cities of Portland, Salem, Woodburn, and Hillsboro and Washington County have recognized the deleterious effects of the federal government's callous and heavy-handed approach to immigration enforcement.

10. **The following conditions have resulted in the need for a state of emergency declaration:**

a. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers have reportedly and allegedly engaged in various types of conduct that infringe on the constitutional rights of members of the Multnomah County community, including but not limited to: arresting and detaining individuals without affording due process rights; refusing to share information about the reason for an individual's arrest or the location where an individual will be detained; routinely wearing masks and refusing to provide identification; and questioning residents and visitors about their immigration status based on their race, ethnicity, language, accent, occupation, or presence at certain locations such as day-labor sites, bus stops, car washes, and parking lots; and

b. U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents and other individuals legally present in the United States have been wrongfully apprehended, held without judicial warrants or charges, denied access to counsel, and subjected to prolonged detention without due process, reflecting a disturbing pattern of constitutional and human rights violations by immigration enforcement authorities; and

c. The detention of U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents and other individuals who are legally present in the United States without judicial warrants or formal charges and the use of immigration enforcement to intimidate communities is a dangerous escalation of the erosion of democratic norms and the rule of law; and

d. The actions of federal immigration enforcement authorities institutionalize racial profiling and encourage discrimination and these actions have caused widespread fear among Multnomah County residents, leading to a measurable decline in workforce participation, particularly among immigrant and mixed-status families; and

e. Increased immigration enforcement has caused some residents to fear leaving their homes to go to work, school, access County services, take public transportation, or attend medical appointments; and

f. Recent data from the State of Oregon shows a significant impact to immigrant's health and well-being due to fear of being targeted and/or detained.

11. **The following damages to the health and well being of the community can be expected from the above conditions:**

a. Increased absenteeism in schools, particularly by students of immigrant or mixed status households;

b. Decreased labor force participation by individuals who fear being targeted or detained by virtue of their race or ethnicity, irrespective of their immigration status, and resulting

in increased strain on local nonprofits, food banks, and emergency service providers as a result of loss or diminished wages;

c. Decreased participation in civic life and engagement by immigrant communities and communities of color;

d. Fear or unwillingness to attend court appointments, report criminal activity or access state or county services.

e. Fear or unwillingness to access in person health care, human services, or other assistance services or resources.

12. The following actions are representative of efforts the Chair will undertake to address the ongoing emergency:

a. Request emergency assistance from the State of Oregon, including but not limited to:

i. Financial relief for affected families and small businesses;

ii. Expanded access to food, housing and mental health services;

iii. Support for local nonprofits and service providers responding to increased demand.

b. Ensure Multnomah County agencies under the direction and control of the Chair continue to adhere to and comply with Oregon's sanctuary statutes;

c. Collaborate with the other members of the Board of County Commissioners to take all necessary and proper actions to mitigate the effects of the emergency conditions;

d. Call upon the state government and Oregon's Congressional delegation to publicly denounce all unconstitutional actions, to prioritize legislation offering comprehensive immigration reform that aligns enforcement with our economic needs, humanitarian values, and community realities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the following Executive Rule is adopted;



1. The undersigned formally declares a state of emergency for Multnomah County, effective 12:00pm on December 12, 2025 throughout Multnomah County.

2. The following additional actions are authorized under Multnomah County Code Chapter 25:

a. The Director of County Management is authorized to suspend purchasing rules and to direct the Multnomah County purchasing manager to make or authorize others to

make procurements of goods and services under the authority provided in the County's Public Contracting Review Board Rule 47-0280 and ORS 279B.080.

- b. The Director of County Management is authorized to suspend or modify personnel rules and administrative procedures or enter into memorandums of agreement or exception with union partners if compliance with such provisions would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or pose hardship on the communities we serve or employees of Multnomah County.
 - c. The Chief Operating Officer may direct County officers and employees to perform or facilitate emergency services.
3. This declaration of emergency shall expire at 11:59pm on January 11, 2026 unless rescinded or extended further¹.

<p>FOR THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY CHAIR</p> <p></p> <p>By: Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County Chair</p>	<p>REVIEWED: COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON:</p> <p>By </p> <p>Carlos J. Calandriello, Sr. Asst. County Attorney</p>
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¹ Under Multnomah County Code Section 24.450(A)(5) requires that the declaration "state the duration that the area will remain an emergency area. In addition, 24.450(B) states that "the state of emergency may be terminated at any time, but may not last for more than 30 days. A declaration of emergency may be extended or terminated by the Board."