WHEREAS, severe winter weather will occur throughout the State of South Carolina between January 28, 2014 and January 30, 2014, which has been reported by the National Weather Service as a Winter Watch or Warning for the majority of counties in this state; and

WHEREAS, temperatures are forecast below freezing, making road conditions extremely hazardous for the general public, endangering the health, safety, and welfare of South Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the winter weather storm are expected to require assistance for stranded motorists, isolated citizens, medical emergencies, downed trees, road debris, and power outages, surpassing the capabilities of local governments to respond to and recover from its effects, thus requiring state support for local governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Governor, pursuant to the Constitution and Statutes of the State of South Carolina, I hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in South Carolina. Accordingly, I direct the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan be placed into effect and require state agencies to support the responsibilities and tasks therein. I further direct prudent response actions be taken at the individual, local, and state levels to respond against the effects of this event.

I hereby place the South Carolina National Guard on State duty and order the utilization of the South Carolina National Guard’s personnel with appropriate equipment, at the discretion of the Adjutant General and in coordination with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, to take necessary and prudent actions to assist the citizens of this state.
Further proclamations and regulations deemed necessary to insure the fullest protection of life and property during this state of emergency shall be issued orally by me and thereafter reduced to writing within the succeeding twenty-four hour period.

This order takes effect at 12:00 p.m. today.


NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State