

#### EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky

# 2020-947 November 11, 2020

# **STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on November 11, 2020, a collision involving a truck carrying potassium hydroxide and an unknown amount of diesel fuel occurred at approximately 2:45 a.m. on the northbound deck of the Brent Spence Bridge, which carries traffic across the Ohio River on Interstates 71 and 75; and

WHEREAS, the collision caused a fire that lasted approximately two hours and which appears to have caused damage to the southbound deck of the Brent Spence Bridge; and

WHEREAS, emergency personnel were ordered off of the Brent Spence

Bridge until the structural integrity of the Bridge could be confirmed for the safety of personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Brent Spence Bridge is a vital link across the Ohio River waterway, carrying daily traffic of both Interstates 71 and 75 between Kentucky and Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the damage to the Brent Spence Bridge has rendered the bridge temporarily unusable and dangerous to the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, this collision has created a significant disruption of the vital services within this regional area, to include medical, educational, utilities and basic human needs; and

WHEREAS, this collision has adversely impacted the movement of goods and commodities within interstate commerce; and

WHEREAS, the duration of this disruption will continue into the foreseeable future until the damaged portion of the Brent Spence Bridge is replaced and/or repaired:



### **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky

# 2020-947 November 11, 2020

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, having been given the authority pursuant to the Constitution of Kentucky and by Chapter 39A of the Kentucky Revised Statutes do hereby declare that a regional state of emergency exists in the areas impacted by the Brent Spence Bridge collision, and in order to adequately respond to the emergency situation hereby ORDER, and DIRECT the following:

- 1. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet shall seek out and explore all avenues to expedite the repair of the Brent Spence Bridge, to include all available funding sources that can be requested for said repairs.
- 2. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet shall identify alternative means of transportation which may be necessary until such time as the Brent Spence Bridge shall once again be serviceable, and funding for said transportation.
- All state, county and local officials shall assist the Kentucky
   Transportation Cabinet in its efforts to return the Brent Spence Bridge to full use and operation.
- 4. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet shall take all necessary steps it may identify in its efforts to repair the Brent Spence Bridge.
- 5. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet shall request assistance from all relevant federal agencies as necessary and appropriate to address the adverse effects of this situation and to accomplish the steps outlined above.
- 6. The Finance and Administration Cabinet is directed to fund the urgent operational or response costs of responding agencies incurred in response to this emergency and in executing the provisions of this Executive Order.



# **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky

2020-947 November 11, 2020

This Executive Order shall be in effect immediately and shall remain in force for twelve (12) months, unless extended for an additional period of time.

This order is effective November 11, 2020.

ANDY BESHEAR, Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky

MICHAEL G. ADAMS Secretary of State