



Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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Major General Michael T. McGuire
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

March 20, 2020

Dear County partners:

The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs has received a number of inquiries regarding the need of a county or local government to make a declaration of emergency as part of the statewide response to COVID-19.

Governor Ducey issued a statewide Declaration of Emergency on March 11, 2020, directing the Arizona Department of Health Services and Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs to coordinate a whole-of-government response across the state and its political subdivisions to address the COVID-19 public health threat. This statewide emergency declaration enabled access to and distribution of state and federal resources to county and local health agencies to support their coordinated response to this public health threat.

A separate county or local declaration of emergency is not required to gain access to these state and federal resources, however, a county or local declaration of emergency could be issued to make available local resources (primarily contingency funding in your respective budgets for emergency events) and specifically to grant emergency powers available to a county or local government pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-307, 308, and 311 to assist in the coordinated response with the state to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For additional references, please see the [COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency](#) and accompanying [Executive Order 2020-07](#), the statutory emergency powers of the Governor and political subdivisions under [A.R.S. Title 26, Chapter 2, Article 1](#), and the statutory emergency responsibilities of the Arizona Department of Health Services under [A.R.S. Title 26, Chapter 6, Article 9](#).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wendy Smith-Reeve".

WENDY SMITH-REEVE

Deputy Director, Department of Emergency and
Military Affairs

Director, Division of Emergency Management