



**Levy County Board of County Commissioners**  
 PO Box 310, Bronson, Florida, 32621  
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### Levy County Quarterly Department Report

#### Department Information

<b>Name of Department</b>	<b>Emergency Management</b>
<b>Name of Department Head</b>	<b>Leatha Keene</b>

#### Department Deliverables

<b>Deliverable</b> <i>(To be determined by the Department Head)</i>	<b>Second Quarter FY</b> <i>(January-March 2026)</i>	<b>Third Quarter FY</b> <i>(April-June 2026)</i>	<b>Fourth Quarter FY</b> <i>(July-September 2026)</i>
<b>Preparedness and Community Engagement</b>	Participated in Community Outreach with local partners, and increasing community awareness and education.		
<b>EOC Design &amp; Development</b>	Finalize conceptual design and begin architectural drawings for new EOC.		
<b>Emergency Response (Drought/Wildfires)</b>	Coordinated with state on emergency declaration; implemented burn ban.		
<b>Comment:</b>	<b>Thank you to the leadership and staff for all the support!</b>		

#### Commissioners

Charlie Kennedy, Vice Chair, District 1  
 Rock Meeks, District 2  
 Desiree Mills, District 3  
 Tim Hodge, Chair, District 4  
 Johnny Hiers, District 5





## Department Highlights

**Emergency Management participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Superheroes Day at Rafter Cross Cowboy Church.**

Key Aspects of the Day:

- *Educational Engagement:* Emergency Management spoke with students about their careers, and roles in emergencies.
- *Community Partnership:* Held at the Williston church, it brought together local heroes and children to build positive relationships with first responders.

**Emergency Management has been dedicated to development and design of the new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and have already begun finalizing drawings of the EOC.**

The New EOC Features and Infrastructure (Completion-Late 2028):

- *Operational Capacity:* The new 11,088 square feet EOC will more than double the space on the Command Center floor.
- *Infrastructure Strength:* The EOC will be built to withstand wind speeds up to 200 mph., significantly increasing the safety of personnel during activations.
- *Technology & Support:* The new EOC will feature a 30 foot video wall for real time data and tracking.

**Emergency Management focused heavily on managing severe drought and high wildfire risk, which resulted in a prolonged local state of emergency and a county wide burn ban.**

Emergency Management supported the Local State of Emergency Declared (Feb 12<sup>th</sup>) due to prolonged dry weather, severe drought indicators, and high wildfire potential, the Board of County Commissioners declared a state of emergency. A strict ban on all outdoor burning was enacted, including but not limited to yard waste, bonfires, campfires, and land clearing fires, which was extended multiple times.