



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health

TOMÁS J. ARAGÓN, M.D., Dr.P.H.
Director and State Public Health Officer



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

November 13, 2024

24-18

TO: LOCAL REGISTRARS OF BIRTH AND DEATHS
CHIEF DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS
COUNTY CLERKS
COUNTY RECORDERS

SUBJECT: State of Emergency in Ventura County to Support Mountain Fire Recovery

On November 08, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to in Ventura County to support ongoing response and recovery efforts for the Mountain Fire.

These Proclamations support impacted residents in Ventura County by waiving fees to replace certificates such as birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records.

Pursuant to these Proclamations of a State of Emergency, fees for certified copies of birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records are suspended for any individual who lost such records as a result of the Mountain Fire. These Proclamations will remain in effect until the Governor terminates the State of Emergency. These Proclamations are available for viewing at:

- [11.08.24-Emergency-Proclamation.pdf \(ca.gov\)](#)

When requesting free copies of a vital record, survivors should state on the application, “Mountain Fire,” and complete the enclosed sworn statement declaring under penalty of perjury that they are a survivor. The sworn statement for survivors is a combined sworn statement which also includes the sworn statement required by Health and Safety Code Section 103526. For requests sent to the California Department of Public Health – Vital Records (CDPH-VR), survivors should additionally make the notation “Mountain Fire” on the front of the mailing envelope, for faster processing.

The application and combined sworn statement must be submitted to complete the request.



If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the CDPH-VR, Issuance Section at (916) 552-8116.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tomás Aragón". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light gray rectangular background.

Tomás Aragón, MD, DrPH
Director & State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health

Enclosures