



**VERONICA KELLEY, DSW, LCSW**  
AGENCY DIRECTOR

**JASON AUSTIN, MA, MFT**  
ASSISTANT AGENCY DIRECTOR

**REGINA CHINSIO-KWONG, DO**  
COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

405 W. 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

[www.ocalthinfo.com](http://www.ocalthinfo.com)

## **COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER**

### **DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR AREAS IN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE IMPACTED BY THE AIRPORT FIRE**

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code Section 101080 authorizes a local health officer to declare a local health emergency in the health officer's jurisdiction affected by a threat to the public health because of an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease, chemical agent, noncommunicable biologic agent, toxin, or radioactive agent;

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2024, the wildfire labeled Trabuco Canyon Airport Fire (Airport Fire) started in Orange County near the Radio Controlled (RC) Flying Field off Trabuco Creek Road and has continued to significantly impact the public health of Orange County residents;

WHEREAS, multiple structures have been damaged by the Airport Fire, including cabins in the Holy Jim Canyon;

WHEREAS, when structures are involved in a wildfire, the combustion of building materials results in ash and debris that contain hazardous substances that must be properly handled, transported, and disposed in such a way as to minimize risk to human health;

WHEREAS, if the ash and debris generated by the Airport Fire are not properly managed they can pose present and potential health threats through dust particles in runoff that can contaminate drinking water supplies including underground water wells in the affected area by the Airport Fire;

WHEREAS, two seasonal underground wells in the Holy Jim Canyon area have the potential of being contaminated if ash generated by the Airport Fire infiltrates the wells with rain activity;

WHEREAS, the ash and debris generated by the Airport Fire have introduced chemical agent, noncommunicable biologic agent, or toxin and pose a threat to the health of Orange County residents through dust particles, runoff and impact on the drinking water supplies including water wells;

NOW, THEREFORE, the County Health Officer hereby declares a local health emergency in the areas of the County of Orange impacted as stated herein by the Airport Fire.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Regina Chinsio-Kwong DO", written over a horizontal line.

Regina Chinsio-Kwong, DO  
County Health Officer

September 20, 2024

Date