

# NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino  
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For more information, contact  
David Wert, Public Information Officer  
(909) 387-5412  
[dwert@sbcounty.gov](mailto:dwert@sbcounty.gov)

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## Governor declares state of emergency in county

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger today proclaimed a state of emergency in San Bernardino County in response a series of strong winter storms that have damaged at least 124 homes, forced residents into emergency shelters, closed roads, caused utility outages.

Preliminary damage estimates stand at close to \$12 million.

The declaration, requested Thursday by Board of Supervisors Chairman Gary Ovitt, makes the county eligible for state and mutual aid assistance, if necessary.

"Conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within San Bernardino County," Chairman Ovitt stated Thursday in his proclamation of a local emergency.

The county urges residents to continue to use extreme caution during the winter storms, particularly while driving and while in close proximity to bodies of water and flood control facilities.

Storm information and contact numbers are available on the county's website at [www.sbcounty.gov](http://www.sbcounty.gov).