



# STATE of MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

## Emergency Executive Order 24-04

### Providing National Guard Assistance to St. Louis County to Support Search and Rescue Operations in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area

I, **Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota**, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following Executive Order.

On May 18, 2024, St. Louis County reported that four canoeists had gone over Curtain Falls inside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA). The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office has been working diligently on an ongoing search and rescue effort. Two members of the group have been rescued; however, two Minnesota residents remain unaccounted for near Iron Lake, one of the most remote locations in the State of Minnesota.

The St. Louis County Sheriff has requested air support for continued rescue operations. The mission requires a CH-47 Chinook to transport a rescue boat into the BWCA. There are no local resources capable of this transport. The St. Louis County Sheriff has also requested assistance from the Minnesota National Guard with the search for the missing canoeists.

For these reasons, I order as follows:

1. The Adjutant General will order to state active duty on May 23, 2024, the people, equipment, and facilities needed to provide assistance in St. Louis County.
2. The Adjutant General is authorized to procure the goods and services needed to accomplish the mission.
3. The costs of this assistance shall be paid from the general fund as allowed by Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 192.52.

This Executive Order is effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 4.035, subdivision 2, and remains in effect until such date as National Guard resources are no longer required, or until June 15, 2024, whichever occurs first.

A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on May 23, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Walz".

Tim Walz, GOVERNOR

Filed May 23, 2024  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State  
Steve Simon

Filed According to Law:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Simon".

Steve Simon, SECRETARY OF STATE