

**Maj. Gen. Torrence Saxe**

*The Adjutant General*

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*Department of Military  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Governor Dunleavy Declares Disaster for Chevak Fire**

#### **State Aid to Help Rebuild Public Safety Building**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** — Governor Mike Dunleavy has issued a Disaster Declaration for the recent fire in Chevak, which destroyed the community's Public Safety Building. This declaration activates the State disaster Public Assistance program to help the community with debris removal and the replacement of the vital structure.

The fire, which occurred on July 8, destroyed the Public Safety Building, a crucial hub for law enforcement and the local volunteer fire department. Fortunately, no injuries were reported. An investigation into the cause of the fire is currently underway.

The Public Safety Building served multiple essential functions for the community, including providing accommodations for Village Public Safety Officers, office space, holding facilities, and serving as the base for Chevak's volunteer fire department.

"In our small Alaskan communities, the loss of a single building can have a devastating effect," said Mark Roberts, Chief of Operation for the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. "While the process will take time, the state, community, and regional partners are taking steps to replace this critical infrastructure."

The City of Chevak officially issued its own disaster declaration on July 18, requesting state assistance for debris and hazardous material removal, as well as resources to rebuild the destroyed structure.

The state's Public Assistance program aims to restore critical infrastructure to its pre-disaster condition. Through this program, eligible local jurisdictions, agencies, and certain non-profits can apply for grants and receive reimbursement for approved work.

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