DECLARATION
By the
Insurance Commissioner of the State of California

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2007, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaimed a state of emergency due to extreme low temperatures and freezing conditions beginning January 11, 2007, and continuing for several days thereafter; and

WHEREAS preliminary data indicates that there may be more than one billion dollars of damage to California agricultural products, including estimates of approximately $700 million in damages to the citrus crop, and major damages to the avocado and the strawberry crops: and

WHEREAS the magnitude of this event and the associated insurance claims are likely to create a shortage of qualified insurance adjusters;

NOW, I, STEVE POIZNER, Insurance Commissioner of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by Section 14022.5(a) of the California Insurance Code, HEREBY PROCLAIM AN EMERGENCY SITUATION to exist with respect to the adjustment of insurance claims arising from the freezing conditions.

THEREFORE, I AUTHORIZE insurers and licensed insurance adjusters to utilize certain adjusters in conformity with the requirements of Section 14022.5 of the California Insurance Code, to the extent such use is reasonably necessary in order to adequately respond to the emergency situation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand to be affixed this 22nd day of January, 2007.

Steve Poizner
Insurance Commissioner