

# United States Congress

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 26, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the State of Tennessee, we are writing to express our support for Governor Bill Lee's request to declare a major disaster pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act as a result of the intentional explosion in Nashville that occurred on Christmas Day.

In the early morning of December 25, 2020, a vehicle was detonated in downtown Nashville, injuring at least three individuals and causing major damage to surrounding buildings, businesses, roads, utilities, and critical infrastructure. The explosion directly impacted AT&T's communication systems across the State of Tennessee. The service disruption extends across the region into Kentucky and Alabama, impacting over 20 Public Safety Answering Points that serve as 911 Call Centers. Flights at Nashville International Airport have also been affected.

The site of the explosion remains an active crime scene. The disaster is placing a significant financial burden on the state, local governments, and impacted individuals. Tennessee Emergency Management Agency officials have been working tirelessly to coordinate the state's response to this disaster with Metro Nashville Police, the Tennessee Highway Patrol, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. We are grateful for their efforts to respond to our communities' needs. First responders and law enforcement officials have been working nonstop over the holiday on this investigation and we appreciate their bravery.

Governor Lee's request for Public Assistance categories A & B for Davidson County pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act is attached, and we urge you to approve Governor Lee's request on behalf of the State of Tennessee as soon as possible.

Our offices can provide you with any additional information should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Lamar Alexander  
United States Senator

Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator



Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress