

Teammates,

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March is the anniversary of a couple events which will greatly impact our State for years to come. March 13<sup>th</sup> marked both the [three-year anniversary of the historic flooding](#) that impacted much of Nebraska and the two-year anniversary since the [Governor issued an emergency declaration](#) in response to the coronavirus pandemic. I wanted to take some time to highlight the impact that both of these events had on the State and how DAS stepped up to respond in both cases.

[DAS' pandemic response](#) included:

- Procuring and assisting in distributing PPE to our healthcare providers and those on the front lines fighting against COVID-19.
- Processing millions of dollars worth of federal relief funds.
- Coordinating an effort between the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, the State University and College system, and private hotels to provide temporary COVID-19 related housing to over 500 Nebraskans.
- Contracting and implementing Test Nebraska to provide over 500,000 free COVID-19 tests.
- Providing business continuity consultation for all state agencies.
- Creating and implementing coronavirus leave for teammates forced to quarantine or care for dependents with COVID-19.

These are just a few examples of how we were able to align ourselves with Governor Ricketts' mission to deliver a more effective, more efficient, and customer-focused state government, even during a pandemic. Through our

dedication to those we serve, DAS was able to continue to provide a high level of customer service both in our pandemic response efforts and while sustaining our day-to-day business operations.

With this week being [Severe Weather Awareness Week](#) in Nebraska, I'd also like to reflect on our response to the flooding that occurred three years ago. DAS worked quickly and diligently to reduce red tape and expedite assistance in support of state agencies responding to the flooding.

Specifically, DAS contributed through:

- [Procuring critical supplies of goods and equipment for agencies, communities, and response teams.](#)
- Expediting the staffing process to provide critical staffing needs for the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and other agencies in response to the flooding.
- Reducing water usage throughout state buildings in order to relieve stress on water infrastructure.
- Providing payroll and HR assistance to 12 state agencies.

The people of Nebraska are resilient, especially in the face of adversity, and that resilience is well-reflected in our teammates here at DAS. Thank you to all our hard-working teammates for the sacrifices they've made to help lead Nebraska safely through the historic events of these past few years.

Regards,

**Jason Jackson**

Director, Department of Administrative Services