

Draft News Release Signature Approval

Release No. _____ Subject _____ Writer: _____

FCO _____ SCO _____

R4 PAO _____ State PIO _____

Program approval initials: _____ IFG _____ Mitigation _____

PA _____ Human Svcs _____ SBA _____ ComRel _____

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MEDIA ADVISORY

--Not for Publication--

News media inquiries into the Mississippi disaster recovery operations should be directed to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and/or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Field Office in Tupelo.

Amy Bissell, MEMA public information officer, is available at 601-955-3217. Don North, public affairs officer for FEMA, can be reached at 662-680-8173. These numbers are staffed during working hours.

Media members can get answers to questions and arrange photos or interviews using these numbers.

MEMA and FEMA has established a disaster field office at 220 South Industrial Drive in Tupelo to house personnel administering various assistance programs. While media members are welcome to visit, this is strictly an administrative office and is not equipped to serve storms victims directly or receive applications for assistance.

To receive state and federal assistance, applicants must register with FEMA by calling **1-800-462-9029** toll free. The registration number for the hearing or speech impaired is **TDD 1-800-462-7585**.

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