FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Crawford to Get Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Monday

COLUMBUS, MS – Anyone who has suffered losses or damages because of the November 10 and 11 severe storms and tornadoes will be able to visit with state, federal, local and voluntary agencies Monday, November 25, at a mobile Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).

The unit will be at the Crawford City Hall at 365 Main Street between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Individuals and business owners who have been affected by the tornadoes are encouraged to first register at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) toll-free teleregistration number at **800-621-FEMA** (**3362**), or for the hearing or speech impaired at (TTY) **800-462-7585** before visiting the DRC.

"We want to assure people that we are working to make sure services are provided to those who need them," said Federal Coordinating Officer Michael Bolch. "A number of disaster assistance programs are in place to help the people affected by the storms and tornadoes."

Mississippi State Coordinating Officer Leon Shaifer said: "We are making every effort to get people the help they need. Please call the FEMA toll-free number. This is the first step toward getting assistance."

Representatives will help explain how to apply for money to pay for repairs, medical expenses or temporary housing, and for Disaster Unemployment Assistance.

Government disaster assistance covers basic needs only and will not normally compensate people and their families for their entire loss. For those with insurance, the government may help pay for basic needs not covered under their insurance policy. Some disaster aid does not have to be paid back, while other help may come in the form of loans.