

For Immediate Release
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Governor Musgrove Proclaims “Fall Severe Weather Awareness Day”

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has proclaimed October 28, 2003, as “Fall Severe Weather Awareness Day” to increase public awareness about the dangers of fall severe weather season.

“In the past, Mississippi has suffered significantly from severe weather during the tornado season in November and December,” said Musgrove. “I encourage all Mississippi families to develop or check existing preparedness plans in order to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities that are often associated with severe weather.”

November historically has been a very active month for severe weather and tornadoes. Last year on November 10th, ten tornadoes occurred in the state with a strong tornado cutting across Columbus. Since 1992, there have been five violent tornadoes in the state, and all but one of them occurred in November.

“We know from experience that individual and family preparedness saves lives,” said Robert Latham, the director of MEMA. “Knowing when to act and what to do will save lives and property. People should use this day to check their disaster supply kits and family disaster plans to ensure their safety for the upcoming tornado season in November.”

On “Fall Severe Weather Awareness Day” the National Weather Service will be conducting a tornado drill so that families can check the efficiency of their preparedness plans.

For more information, please contact Amy Carruth with MEMA at 960-9039.

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