

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Declares State of Emergency

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove declared a state of emergency today as a result of the severe storms that passed through Mississippi during the night and this morning. The state of emergency focuses on central and south Mississippi as well as any other areas of the state affected by the storms.

“My thoughts and prayers are with the families whose lives have been impacted by this storm,” said Musgrove. “We are working with Robert Latham and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency to start the rebuilding process for these families as quickly as possible.”

Initial reports from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) show damage in six Mississippi counties.

“We have sent area coordinators to the affected areas to work closely with local governments to meet the immediate needs of the citizens affected and to utilize available local and state resources to assist in the response and recovery effort,” said MEMA Director Robert Latham.

The seven counties with initial reports of damage are Smith, Simpson, Warren, Jasper, Lauderdale, Sharkey and Hancock. Damage is as follows:

- ❖ Smith County:
 - County Road #77 from Raleigh to Mize
 - One mobile home destroyed with two minor injuries to kids and mom inside.
 - 8 mobile homes with minor damage
 - 9 homes with minor damage
 - Trees and power lines down

(More)

- ❖ Simpson County
 - Magee Elementary School has damaged roof over three classrooms and flooding in building
 - One mobile home destroyed with minor injuries
 - Trees and power lines down
- ❖ Warren County
 - Two homes with minor damage
- ❖ Jasper County
 - Trees and power lines down
- ❖ Lauderdale County
 - One home with minor roof damage
- ❖ Sharkey County
 - Shop building destroyed behind a home
- ❖ Hancock County
 - One shed with roof damage

The Red Cross has opened a shelter at the Multi-purpose center in Raleigh in Smith County.

MEMA continues to work with the municipalities and county emergency management agencies to assess damage to homeowners and businesses across the state. The assessments are first-hand, on the ground surveys by teams of local officials to determine the type and amount of damage as the strong system passes through the state.

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