



PRESS Announcement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Central Mississippi Correctional Facility Provides Public Service Relief Assistance To Brandon Area Ravaged By Tornado

Jackson – A four-member maintenance crew headed by Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) Superintendent Lawrence Kelly and a group of six trusty inmate volunteers braved the elements Thursday evening to provide disaster relief assistance to Brandon area residents. The group of prison employees and inmate volunteers armed with chainsaws converged on the scene to provide relief assistance to the area affected by the severe tornado at approximately 10:30 p.m. and worked throughout the night to clear roads blocked by fallen trees.

“I’m extremely proud of my staff for their invaluable assistance and I also wish to salute the inmates who volunteered to assist in the emergency knowing full-well at that time that they could not receive additional time credit unless the governor issued a state of emergency,” said Superintendent Kelly. “Because of their untiring public service spirit, many people who had friends and relatives in the damaged area were eventually able to get into the area as roads were cleared by the crew.” Governor Ronnie Musgrove later signed a State of Emergency declaration to areas affected by the storm.

Coincidental with the announcement of the disaster public service work provided by the CMCF prison employees and inmates, Corrections Commissioner Christopher Epps stated, “**Respect**, is one of the tenants of our agency’s Strategic Plan. Its principle truth outlines our pledge involving our relationships with each other and those we serve. We remain committed to honoring this core value as public servants.”

