

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

# NEWS



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 18, 2001**

**SUBJECT: 10/18/01 Daily Activity Report**

(Jackson) – Each day between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. a press release will be faxed to you containing the number of incidents that were reported to the State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) in the last 24 hours by city or county officials. The SEOC at MEMA is activated at a Level 2 with representatives from MS Department of Environmental Quality, MS Highway Patrol, State Fire Marshall's Office and MS Department of Health.

Approximately 150 reports in 31 counties have been received in the past 24 hours to the SEOC. 100 of these inquiries were received at the SEOC and were handled at the local level. Most of these reported cases involve suspicious mail or the suspected presence of Anthrax. The reports came from the following 31 counties: Adams, Attala, Bolivar, Claiborne, Clarke, Coahoma, Copiah, Forrest, George, Grenada, Hancock, Harrison, Hinds, Holmes, Jackson, Lafayette, Lauderdale, Lincoln, Madison, Marshall, Newton, Oktibbeha, Pike, Pontotoc, Rankin, Stone, Sunflower, Tate, Walthall, Warren, and Yazoo.

All HazMat, Fire & Rescue, Law Enforcement, and Medical/Health teams in the affected areas remain high alert. The total number of samples received to date at the State Health Department Lab is 48. According to the State Department of Health, no cases of anthrax have been confirmed as authentic at this time.

MEMA encourages the public to return to their daily routines and lives. If you see anything that looks unfamiliar or suspicious, please report it to your local law enforcement.

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