

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY



# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: October 29, 2002**

**SUBJECT: SEVERE WEATHER PROMPTS EMERGENCY ACTIONS**

(Jackson) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has declared a State of Emergency for Mississippi in connection with the severe weather that moved through the southern and central parts of the state. The declaration covers Pearl River, Stone and any other county that may have been impacted by the storms.

"We are working 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 effort," said Director Robert Latham regarding the affected counties. Mr. Latham is currently in Pearl River county assessing damages and providing assistance where needed. MEMA has deployed a county liaison team that consist of the local EMA director and two MEMA personnel to assist the county affected by this severe weather situation.

**The following is an update on Pearl River County:**

Reports of trees and power lines down throughout Picayune and the southern part of the county

Minor and major damage to homes – uncertain of the number at this time; estimates of 100

Power outages being reported in the City of Picayune – estimated 10-12 hours before power is restored completely

Local Proclamation of Emergency in Pearl River County and the City of Picayune

Shelter opened at Pearl River Baptist Association Lee's Conference Center in Carriere, MS

Hwy 11, Hwy 43 and I-59 are cleared and open for traffic

Curfew will be enforced in Picayune from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

One injury reported from a tree falling in home, patient was admitted to hospital

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