

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS



CONTACT: AMY BISSELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
MEMA Newsline

(601) 352-9100
1-800-441-6362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2001

SUBJECT: Governor Requests Federal Assistance for South Mississippi Counties

(Jackson) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today sent a letter to President George W. Bush requesting a Presidential Declaration of Disaster under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act as a result of the direct affects of severe weather and flooding that struck George, Pearl River, Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties.

Representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration joined MEMA and local officials to conduct damage assessments in the affected areas. As a result of Governor Musgrove's visit and these assessments, the Governor has forwarded a formal request for Federal Assistance to President Bush.

Damage cost estimates is expected to exceed \$6 million dollars in the five affected counties.

"Our State has suffered two major disasters earlier this year," said Robert Latham, Director of MEMA. "MEMA is committed to assisting local governments and the citizens of our State as they struggle to rebuild their lives and homes."

###