

## **State of Mississippi Emergency Management Agency – Fact Sheet**

### **Agency Role.**

The Agency is responsible, to the Governor, for carrying out the program for emergency management of the State. The Director shall coordinate the activities of all organizations for emergency management within the State, and shall maintain liaison with and cooperate with emergency management agencies and organizations of other states and of the federal government.

### **Responsibilities.**

- Prepare and coordinate a comprehensive statewide plan and program for emergency management.
- Coordinate the preparation of plans and programs for emergency management by the agencies and political subdivisions of the state.
- Coordinate response activities of all organizations for emergency management within the state.
- Establish and maintain a direction and control system for the control and coordination of all emergency management activities.
- Establish and maintain a hazardous materials and radiological accident/incident response support capability.
- Institute training and public information programs.
- Establish and maintain an evacuation and shelter system.
- Establish and maintain a radiological protection system.
- Develop and maintain a statewide hazard mitigation plan and program.
- Establish and maintain a damage assessment system
- Administer federal and state disaster assistance programs or direct the administration thereof.

### **Capabilities and Abilities.**

Primary capability are statewide communications systems utilizing radio, facsimile, computers, and an expanding satellite based radio/telephone network. A mobile operations center can be operational in any area of the state within a few hours. Equipped with links to all communications systems, computers, facsimile, cellular phone systems, and an on board generator; it has sufficient workspace to support extended operations.

### **Response Scenarios.**

Utilization of Agency capability is at the discretion of the Director. In scenarios involving a significant threat to populated areas, an emergency proclamation by the Governor would provide the authority to task other agencies and fund their out-of-pocket expenses for response activities.