

Quarterly Newsletter



<http://www.hindscountymiss.com/departments/emergency-management>

**Hinds County Board of Supervisors**

~Robert Graham, District 1 ~ Darrel McQuirter, District 2, President ~

~Peggy Calhoun, District 3, Vice President ~ Mike Morgan, District 4, ~ Bobby "Bobcat" McGowan, District 5 ~

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## From the Desk of the Director

On Thursday, March 3, 2016 the Hinds County Board of Supervisors in conjunction with the City of Jackson, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service of Jackson hosted a commemoration ceremony on the 50th Anniversary of the Candlestick Park Tornado. This was done in remembrance of the victims who lost their lives and to honor the family members, survivors and first responders. We would like to thank the agencies listed above along with the owners and management staff at Candlestick Park for helping us make this event possible.

The Candlestick Park Tornado touched down at about 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 1966 near Learned, Mississippi. It traveled northeast toward the City of Jackson. The violent F-5 tornado with winds of 261-318 mph was on the ground for 202 miles with a width of 900 yards and struck seven counties. In total there were 58 deaths, 518 injuries and damage estimated at more than \$18 million. Of the 58 deaths twelve of them happened at Candlestick Park shopping center. The shopping center was virtually destroyed, cars were thrown and pavement was scoured from the roads. Over one thousand homes were damaged and nineteen killed in Hinds County, mostly in Jackson. Six people died in Rankin County, twenty six died in rural Scott County and six died after it passed into Leake County. The tornado is tied for fifth deadliest in Mississippi history.



Ricky Moore, Director

**EOC Staff**

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Director/Fire Coordinator

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Lavonne Berryhill  
Administrative Coordinator

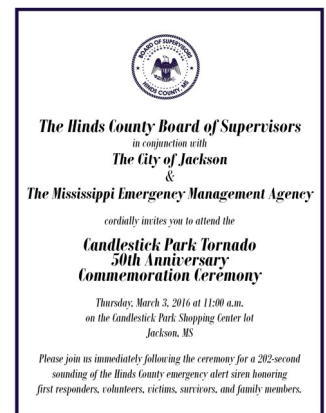
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EM Specialist

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Newsletter Editor

Kenneth Smith  
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## Preparing for Spanish Speaking Callers

**Los números**

cero	0	veintiocho	28
uno	1	veintinueve	29
dos	2	treinta	30
tres	3	treinta y uno	31
cuatro	4	treinta y dos	32
cinco	5	treinta y tres	33
seis	6	treinta y cuatro	34
siete	7	treinta y cinco	35
ocho	8	treinta y seis	36
nueve	9	treinta y siete	37
diez	10	treinta y ocho	38
once	11	treinta y nueve	39
doce	12	cuarenta	40
trece	13	cuarenta y uno	41
catorce	14	cuarenta y dos	42
quince	15	cuarenta y tres	43
dieciséis	16	cuarenta y cuatro	44
diecisiete	17	cuarenta y cinco	45
dieciocho	18	cuarenta y seis	46
diecinueve	19	cuarenta y siete	47
veinte	20	cuarenta y ocho	48
veintiuno	21	cuarenta y nueve	49
veintidós	22	quinientos	500
veintitrés	23	seiscientos	600
veinticuatro	24	setecientos	700
veinticinco	25	ochocientos	800
veintiseis	26	novecientos	900
veintisiete	27	mil	1000

**El alfabeto**

Aa	Bb	Cc	Chch	Dd
el agua	el bebé	el capote	el chocolate	el dedo
Ee	Ff	Gg	Hh	Ii
el elefante	el fango	el gajo	la hoja	la isla
Jj	Kk	Ll	Llll	Mm
la jirafa	el kaktus	el limón	la llanta	la manzana
Nn	Nh	Oo	Pp	Qq
la nariz	la oruga	el ocho	el papavero	el queso
Rr	Ss	Tt	Uu	Vv
la rana	el sol	el tigre	los uvas	la vaca
Ww	Xx	Yy	Zz	
las ruedas	el xilofono	el zapato	el zorro	

In March, three EOC staff members participated in a “Spanish for Dispatchers/911 Centers” class. The course was taught by Steve W. Gaenzle of Spanish Language Consultants, LLC. from El Paso, Texas. This training was designed to teach 911 dispatchers to communicate with Spanish speaking callers but is also available to all emergency responders. This sixteen hour course provided the staff with valuable basic information. It will assist them in communicating with Spanish speaking callers who dial into the EOC.

Spanish for the most part is easier to learn as a second language than English is as a second language. As they went thru this course they learned basic grammar rules that are very similar to English grammar rules. Once you see the similarity it will be easier to accept these rules and Spanish will come to you at a faster pace. It was stressed often that to be comfortable speaking Spanish that you must practice, practice and practice some more. No one can achieve learning a new language with practice.

Each participant was provided a manual (a cheat sheet) with all of the important Spanish phrases necessary to do a better and safe job in their selected field. For those working in law enforcement or as first responders, it is very important to make sure that the correct color of clothing, vehicles, hair/eye color are recognized and reported properly.

Lavonne, Brandy and Robin left this class with the ability to recognize numbers, days, months and some basic phrases. If you or your agency are interested in these classes you can go to [www.slcs spanish.com](http://www.slcs spanish.com)

## Be Prepared for Severe Weather



It is the beginning of the Spring Severe Weather Season in Mississippi. Being prepared for severe thunderstorms and tornadoes is of the utmost importance. Hinds County is a recognized Storm-Ready Community by the National Weather Service. StormReady communities/counties are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education and awareness.

Preparedness is of vital importance to your family. Your family may not be together when a disaster strikes so it is important to plan in advance: how you will get to a safe place; how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. For information to help create a plan go to: [www.ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan)

*Family Communications Plan*

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Out-of-town contact \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Neighborhood meeting place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meeting place telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Being prepared includes creating/updating your family disaster kit. This kit should include these basic items (for an extensive list go to [www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit)): one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation, three-day supply of non-perishable food, manual can opener, back up prescription medicines, battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio, flashlight, extra batteries, first aid kit, whistle, moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation, wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, spare cell phone/device chargers.

**Emergency Preparedness**  
*Are You Ready?*

- 1 Have a Kit
- 2 Make a Plan
- 3 Be Informed

Information is available to download from Homeland Security's Ready America web site at:  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

Knowing the difference between a watch and a warning is also important in knowing when to take cover during a storm. Below are the descriptions provided by the National Weather Service. A severe thunderstorm/tornado watch means that conditions are favorable for severe thunderstorms/tornadoes to develop. These are issued by the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, OK, typically before severe weather develops. Watches tend to last several hours and cover many counties.

A severe thunderstorm/tornado warning means that a severe thunderstorm/tornado has either been indicated on radar or witnessed by storm spotters. Your local NWS Forecast Office issues severe thunderstorm warnings when severe weather is developing or occurring. Warning tends to be less than an hour and cover a smaller area than a watch (i.e., 1-2 counties or less). Please take the time to make sure your family is prepared for severe weather.



## Code Red Alert Notification System—Sign Up!

Click on the logo to sign up to receive CodeRed notification by telephone for emergencies, including weather emergencies, or informational messages.

Hinds County is under contract with Code RED, which is a 911 notification system that sends emergency messages to landlines and cell phones. Citizens of Hinds County with a landline will automatically be enrolled through the 911 database. You must “opt in” (for cell phones) by signing up at the Hinds County website. Go to [www.hindscountymys.com](http://www.hindscountymys.com) and scroll to the bottom and click on the Code Red logo (pictured on left). Then follow the instructions set up an account and receive messages on your mobile device.

Your contact information remains private. Notifications will only be used during emergencies such as severe weather alerts or evacuation notifications. If you miss the original call you may hear the last message delivered to your phone through the Code RED system by simply dialing back the number on your Caller ID. The system is monitored 24/7 and alerts are generated automatically after warnings have been issued by the National Weather Service. Code RED Weather Warning is designed to rapidly alert citizens in the path of severe weather. The authorities of Hinds County believe this will improve the ability to keep the public safe. .

## Be Ready Make a Plan



- Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:**
- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
  - Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
  - Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
  - Flashlight and extra batteries
  - First aid kit
  - Whistle to signal for help
  - Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
  - Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
  - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
  - Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
  - Local maps

## Hurricane Season is Almost Here Again

History teaches that a lack of preparation and awareness are the common thread of major hurricane disasters. You can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster by being aware of your vulnerability and what actions should be taken in the event of a hurricane. There are many forms of hazards that come from hurricanes, including heavy rainfall, high winds, tornadoes, inland flooding, rip currents and storm surge. Below are some tips for being prepared.

Everyone needs to be prepared for the unexpected. Your friends and family may not be together when disaster strikes. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children or parents are safe? You may have to evacuate or be confined to your home. What will you do if water, gas, electricity or phone services are shut off?

Put together a basic disaster supplies kit and consider storage locations for different situations. Help community members do the same. Go to this site to find out how: <http://www.ready.gov/basic-disaster-supplies-kit>

Know if you live in an evacuation area. Review the FEMA Evacuation Guidelines to allow for enough time to pack and inform friends and family if you need to leave your home. FOLLOW instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered! Consider your protection options to decide whether to stay or evacuate your home if you are not ordered to evacuate.

Be familiar with the different types of watches and warnings that are issued by the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS is responsible for protecting life and property by the issuance of timely watches and warnings. It is necessary that your family be prepared before the storm arrives.

Keep a list of contact information for reference.

- ◆ Local Emergency Management Office
- ◆ County Law Enforcement
- ◆ County Public Safety Fire/Rescue
- ◆ State, County and City/ Town Government
- ◆ Local Hospitals
- ◆ Local Utilities
- ◆ Local American Red Cross
- ◆ Local TV Stations
- ◆ Local Radio Stations
- ◆ Your Property Insurance Agent

You can get further information by visiting FEMA's website ([www.ready.gov/hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes)).







## EMS Vehicles Purchased With Grant Money

Hinds County recently purchased six new vehicles to enhance emergency medical services in the rural areas of the county. The purchase includes three Ford F-350 pickup trucks with utility storage systems and three Ford transit vans. The vehicles were paid for with Grant monies from the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund (EMSOF).

The vehicles were placed in six Volunteer Fire Departments including Learned, Bench, Terry, Bolton, Utica and Byram. These vehicles will be used to transport personnel and equipment to medical calls.

## Register for CERT Training



The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.



If you are a resident of Hinds County and interested in joining a Community Emergency Response Team you can call the Hinds County Emergency Management office and speak with Robin Garrard (601.960.1476) to have your name added to the waiting list for the next available CERT Training opportunity. Classes are limited to twenty-five (25) and we will apply for grant money once we have 15+ on the waiting list.

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<http://www.hindscountymississippi.com/departments/emergency-management>

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*Mitigation ~ Preparedness ~ Response ~ Recovery*

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*Emergency Management protects communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other manmade disasters.*