

Quarterly Newsletter



<http://www.hindscountyms.com/departments/emergency-management>  
 Hinds County Board of Supervisors

~Robert Graham, District 1 ~ Darrel McQuirter, District 2 ~ Peggy Calhoun, District 3, ~ Mark Morgan, District 4 ~ Bobby "Bobcat" McGowan, District 5 ~

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Happy New Year  
**2016**



**EOC Staff**

**Ricky Moore**  
 Director/Fire Coordinator

**Joey Perkins**  
 Assistant Director

**Lavonne Berryhill**  
 Administrative Coordinator

**Tracy Funches**  
 Operations Coordinator

**Kyle Greer**  
 EMS Coordinator

**Robin Garrard**  
 Planner Coordinator  
 Newsletter Editor

**Kenneth Smith**  
 911 Coordinator

**Brandy Martin**  
 Administrative Assistant

**From the Desk of the Director.....**

Hinds County had the honor of having four employees selected for the inaugural session of the Jackson State University (JSU) Center for Public Management and Leadership (PML) "Certificate Program". The Certificate Program is a three-month, non-academic intensive program representing 45 contact hours of instruction. The PML Center is an affiliate operation and function of the Institute of Government at JSU.

The PML Center recognizes that a critical and necessary focus is needed on the "importance and readiness" of middle-management and lower-level supervisors in achieving the success of an organization. Research and observation suggest that there is an under-readiness within middle and lower-level administrative personnel, especially in understanding its organization's purpose, mission, duty and accountability, and management responsibility. The PML Center acknowledges the need to better prepare personnel in middle and lower-level leadership roles to help insure the success of the organization, and in particular public organizations.

Eligible applicants must be currently employed in a government or public/non-profit agency in a middle management or lower-level administrative position or are aspiring to move into such positions.

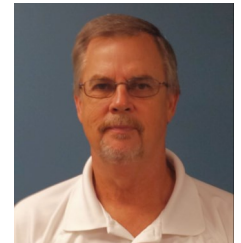
- Core subjects are offered in fall and spring sessions. Areas cover key professional development topics.
- Five (5) core topics, from the list to the right are offered in each session and are designed to fit the cohort profile.
- Each session totals 16 weeks—15 weeks of 5 core subjects and 1 week of assessment.
- Applicant costs—\$2,500 for admittance, 5 core subject areas, and all instructional materials. \*Installment option available

It was truly an honor for our employees to participate in this program.



Respectfully,

*Ricky Moore*



Ricky Moore, Director



Pictured left to right:  
 Lavonne Berryhill, EOC  
 Joey Perkins, EOC  
 Brandy Martin, EOC  
 Lure Berry, Budget & Finance

- *State and Local Government Finance & Budgeting*
- *Human Resource Management*
- *Policy Development, Implementation, Accountability and Evaluation*
- *Government Structure, Function and Operation*
- *Ethics and Legal Frameworks of Public Service Organizations*
- *Conflict Resolution*
- *Effective Supervision and Leadership*
- *General Public Management Issues*



## Firefighter Proclamation Terry, MS

Due to a large fire that could have been catastrophic for the Town of Terry being contained and extinguished by the Terry Volunteer Fire Department and many other fire service departments the Alderwomen of the Town of Terry issued the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, fighting fires is one of the most hazardous professions requiring physical strength, stamina, extensive training, courage and selfless concern for the welfare of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Alderwomen for the TOWN OF TERRY are grateful to all Firefighters and Rescue Personnel for their dedicated service in containing a huge fire that burned 154 acres on October 1, 2015 and this fire could have been catastrophic to our town; and

**WHEREAS**, Firefighters and Emergency Services Personnel play an essential role in the protection of lives and property in our local community; and

**WHEREAS**, we further call upon citizens of the TOWN OF TERRY to remember all Fire and Emergency personnel who service their community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Alderwomen for the TOWN OF TERRY do hereby proclaim October 2015, and each subsequent October thereafter, to be designated as Firefighter Appreciation Month and commend all Firefighters and Rescue Personnel of the following Towns and Agencies for their tremendous effort.

*Virginia S. Bailey, Mayor Pro-Temp; Bonnie Holly, Alderwoman; April O. Miley, Alderwoman; Connie Taylor, Alderwoman and Doris Young, Alderwoman*



### RESPONDERS TO TERRY FIRE

- |                    |                              |                           |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Terry VFD          | Dentville VFD                | Terry Police Department   |
| Byram VFD          | Rankin EOC                   | MHP                       |
| City of Byram Fire | Jackson Fire                 | Crossroads VFD            |
| Raymond VFD        | Pocahontas VFD               | Copiah County EOC         |
| Learned VFD        | MS Forestry Commission       | Brownsville VFD           |
| Utica VFD          | Entergy                      | US Environmental Services |
| Cleary VFD         | Hinds EOC                    |                           |
| Hopewell VFD       | Hinds County Sheriff's Dept. |                           |

According to the MS Forestry Commission, 154 acres burned. The Forestry Commission brought in two dozers and Ergon brought in one. The fire was fought for six hours, using 85,000 gallons of water and it took about 5 minutes to fill each tanker. The fire was fought under the direction of Jason Whittington, Terry Volunteer Fire Department and Joseph Perkins, Assistant Director at the Hinds County Department of Emergency Management.

Source: Hinds County News, December 2015



## Extension Cord Safety

Extension cords are a convenient way to power electrical devices, especially during the holiday season. However, without proper use, extension cords can become a fire hazard.

According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), most home electrical fires involve the home's electrical wiring or lighting. Follow these important USFA tips to keep your family safe:

- Replace worn, old, or damaged extension cords right away;
- Use extension cords for temporary purposes only;
- Avoid putting cords where they can be damaged or pinched, like under a carpet or rug;
- Don't overload power strips; and
- Use power strips that have internal overload protection.

Source: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)



## Preparing for Lengthy Power Outages

Did you know that a severe winter storm can knock out power to your home? Since you can't predict how long a power outage will last, you should plan to live without electricity for at least three days.

Now that winter is here, preparation is necessary to stay safe! Here are some tips to prepare your family for a power outage:

- Build an emergency supply kit that includes an alternative cell phone charger, a manual can opener, cash, a NOAA weather radio, and a warm blanket for each person. Go to <http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- Make a family emergency communication plan. Go to <http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>
- Keep your car tank at least half full because gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.
- Put thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer to monitor food temperature.
- Get battery back-up for medical or assistive devices that require power.

During a power outage, it is important to remember:

- Use only flashlights or emergency lighting, NEVER use candles due to fire hazard.
- Conserve your cell phone battery, only use your phone for life-threatening situations.
- Put on layers of warm clothing.
- Don't use your oven as a heating source.

Source: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)



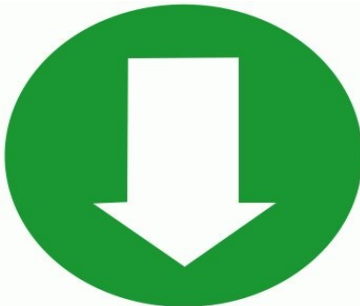


## Community Emergency Response Team

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.



## Rural Fire Ratings Lowered

In 2015 great strides were made in rural Hinds County to lower fire ratings. It is due to the decision to purchase several new fire trucks by the Hinds County Board of Supervisors that great progress has been made. The following towns, Brownsville, Pocahontas, Bolton, Edwards and Learned have all had their historically rated 10 dropped to a 7 in areas within their town limits. Hinds County officials will continue to diligently work towards reducing fire rating in all rural areas of Hinds County.

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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.*