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State of Louisiana
Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and
Emergency Preparedness

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GOHSEP Employee Named Chair of Mutual Aid Task Force

Baton Rouge (March 12th) – Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) employee Victoria Carpenter has been selected as Chair of the Emergency Mutual Assistance Compact (EMAC) Executive Task Force. Carpenter, the EMAC Coordinator for GOHSEP, will serve as Chair of the Executive Task Force for one year beginning March 13, 2015. She will also serve as the National Coordinating State's Leader.

GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis said, "Victoria is respected for her leadership and experience coordinating response to disasters in Louisiana and other states. As Louisiana's EMAC Coordinator, she has provided direct supervision and oversight for more than \$80 million dollars in EMAC reimbursements. I am confident her skills will help with her new task force responsibilities."

Carpenter has deployed as a member of an EMAC A-team during 2009 for the Kentucky ice storm and to North Dakota for a major flooding event. She also deployed as a team leader for events like the Tuscaloosa tornadoes, Hurricane Irene and Super Storm Sandy.

EMAC is the first national disaster-relief compact since the Civil Defense and Disaster Compact of 1950 to be ratified by Congress. Since ratification and signing into law in 1996 (Public Law 104-321), 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have enacted legislation to become EMAC members.

EMAC offers assistance during governor-declared states of emergency through a responsive, straightforward system that allows states to send personnel, equipment, and commodities to help disaster relief efforts in other states. Through EMAC, states can also transfer services, such as shipping newborn blood from a disaster-impacted lab to a lab in another state.

You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new ALERT FM App. It is free for basic service. You can also download the new Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other important information at www.getagameplan.org. The Get a Game Plan App is available for download to your smart phones or tablets.

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