

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

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JAMES B. WASKOM
DIRECTOR

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Mike Steele
mike.steele@la.gov
225-788-0095

GOHSEP Deploying EMAC Advance Team, LDWF Agents to Texas

BATON ROUGE (August 26, 2017) – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) has deployed two Emergency Management Assistance Compact, EMAC, Advance Team personnel to Texas in response to Hurricane Harvey. Miranda Turner and Michele Asonye will work with Texas personnel to assist in coordinating out-of-state resources. Texas made the request for personnel through the EMAC.

"Louisiana and GOHSEP stand ready to help our friends in other states when they face this type of disaster," said GOHSEP Director James Waskom. "Texas has historically been one of our strongest emergency partners. GOHSEP employees have a vast amount of knowledge and experience other states often look for when they need support. We are proud to be able to help assist Texas during this event."

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 are able to join forces and help one another, as needed, during each phase of the emergency. The state-to-state system was developed after Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and established in 1996.

In addition to the EMAC personnel, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is sending a Search and Rescue Team to Texas to help with ongoing emergency operations there. That team consists of ten agents, ten trucks and ten boats.

For more information on the Emergency Management Assistance Compact visit www.emacweb.org.

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GOHSEP's highly trained EMAC teams have been called upon to assist in past emergencies such as 2009 North Dakota Flooding and Kentucky Ice Storm, 2011 tornado outbreak in Alabama and Missouri, 2011 Hurricane Irene Maryland and Vermont, 2012 Hurricane Sandy Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Visit www.511la.org for road updates during an emergency. Keep your phones charged and near you while the threat continues in order to receive potential emergency messaging.

Find more tips on weather and preparedness on GOHSEP's Facebook and Twitter accounts. You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new Alert FM App. It is free for basic service. The Get A Game Plan App is another resource available to help you and your family prepare for any type emergency. You download the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other information at www.getagameplan.org.

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