



MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NEWS RELEASE
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MEMA assists the state of New York in Tropical Storm Irene operations

PEARL – Mississippi Emergency Management Agency Deputy Administrator Lea Crager will help support the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services as it responds to and recovers from Tropical Storm Irene.

Crager volunteered after New York sought assistance through the National Emergency Management Associations' Emergency Management Assistance Compact. This program provides emergency management support to states impacted by disasters.

“This is an opportunity for us to share our experience not only from Hurricane Katrina but from the many other recent disasters Mississippi has experienced,” said Crager. “Many of the states impacted by this storm and those still in its path have not experienced significant tropical weather in many years and we are pleased to be able to assist them.”

Crager has worked for MEMA for eight years and has extensive experience in disaster recovery programs. She left for Albany, N.Y. today and will be helping for up to two weeks.

“Following Hurricane Katrina many states, including New York, came to help the residents of our state,” said MEMA Director Mike Womack. “We feel that this is one of the best ways to repay another state for helping Mississippi when we needed it most.”

Irene was downgraded from a Hurricane Sunday morning but not before being blamed for several deaths and leaving a path of destruction from the Carolina Coast through New York and into the New England States.

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