



MEMA



FEMA

News Release

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Pass Christian sends office space to Smithville

CLINTON, MS - Pass Christian, a coastal town pummeled by Hurricane Katrina, has come to the aid of Smithville, a small northeastern Mississippi town battered by an EF-5 tornado.

Pass Christian is donating a doublewide trailer to be used as a temporary office unit for the Monroe County town. Smithville Mayor Gregg Kennedy said the town's government is currently operating out of pickup trucks, and its fire and police chiefs are working out of their vehicles.

"We are so thankful for Pass Christian's kind heartedness and for helping us out with this office space," Kennedy said. "We will be able to move all our city services into the unit and that will help us as we're recovering from this."

Pass Christian Mayor Chipper McDermott said he and his town are grateful to all who helped them during and after Katrina and wanted to be able to return the favor to Smithville.

"We know what everyone did for us more than five years ago, and we wanted to give them what we had," McDermott said of donating the temporary office space.

The unit was formerly used as a senior center after Hurricane Katrina.

The office unit will be moved by teams from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and FEMA early this week.

For more information, visit us online at www.msema.org. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook using the keyword MSEMA.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.