

MEMA NEWSLETTER

November 2020



SPOTLIGHT: TEAM SOUTH

Based in Biloxi, MEMA's Southern Team consists of individuals most of us don't see on a daily basis, but they are indeed the unsung branch of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. Their team has played an integral role in the agency's day to day operations since 2007.

Following the devastation from Hurricane Katrina in 2005, there was an immediate need for additional MEMA employees, specifically along the coast, to aid in the long-term recovery of the area. The extent of the destruction following Hurricane Katrina ultimately prompted the creation of MEMA's Southern Team.

They continue to work Hurricane Katrina, which has remained an open disaster even 15 years after the storm made landfall. The rebuilding process is ongoing across the coast and the Southern Team oversees all infrastructure projects, such as road paving, that are still underway as a result of the 2005 hurricane.

Three additional disasters remain open that the team continues to work: Hurricane Nate, the February 2019 severe storm event and the April 2019 severe storm event.

Although the group has evolved throughout the years, their current team of fourteen describes themselves as a close-knit family with a range of experience and backgrounds. While each member of this cohesive group brings something valuable to the team, there are two things they each share: a commitment to MEMA and a love for the place they call home, the beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast.



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



MEREDITH LEE

Meredith has a consistent personality of positive leadership and workmanship, which constantly motivates the Individual Assistance team. Her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty is an invaluable trait that inspires her team each and every day. Congratulations, Meredith! Thank you for all that you do!

FROM THE OFFICE OF MITIGATION

The NFIP requires floodplain **permits** for all **development** inside high-risk flood zones (A or V Zones).

What is “development”:

“**Development**” is defined in 44 Code of Regulations (59.1) as “any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.”

Make sure to check with your community officials to determine if you’re in a high-risk flood zone and if you require a floodplain permit for your **DEVELOPEMENT!**

What are Some Items that would Require a Flood Development Permit from your Floodplain?

- Building a House
- Moving a Mobile Home
- Parking RVs
- Construction of Lakes or Ponds
- Storage Sheds
- Repairs after Damages to a Structure
- Improvements/Additions to a structure

MEMA WENT PINK FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Members of the MEMA team wore pink on Friday, October 23 to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Those who have been impacted by the disease were encouraged to sign a pink ribbon in honor of breast cancer fighters and survivors.



WELCOME

TO THE MEMA TEAM:

Sontyna Dixon
Preparedness

Ian Gaston
Support Services (HR)

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3  ELECTION DAY	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11  VETERANS DAY OFFICES CLOSED	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26  THANKSGIVING - OFFICES CLOSED -	27	28
29	30					