Hurricane Zeta slammed the Mississippi Gulf Coast on October 28, 2020 as a Category 2 hurricane with winds exceeding 100 mph. The storm resulted in millions of dollars worth of damage and left thousands of Mississippians to pick up the pieces.

Following the storm, MEMA immediately responded by providing essential items to those in need and expedited damage assessments. Members of the Individual Assistance Office in particular have worked around the clock for the last three months helping impacted residents through every step of the recovery process. The team has gone above and beyond in many ways to help Mississippians mend from the devastating hurricane.

On December 31, 2020 the governor’s request for FEMA Individual Assistance was approved by the president and shortly after, the MEMA Individual Assistance team began coordinating the opening of six Mississippi Registration Intake Centers to help residents apply for federal assistance.

While most Mississippians took advantage of the online application process, not everyone has access to the internet, which is why the team’s efforts to set up in-person registration centers were so valuable.

Registration Intake Centers were open in George, Jackson, Greene, Stone, Hancock and Harrison Counties for just under two weeks. Throughout the 11 days the centers were open, MEMA team members met with more than 700 residents and registered nearly 350 of those residents for Individual Assistance through FEMA.

As of February 1, 2021, over 10,000 impacted residents have applied for FEMA Individual Assistance. In total, over six million dollars of Individual Assistance has been approved by FEMA, which is a monumental accomplishment.

Throughout this disaster, the Individual Assistance teams’ efforts have ranged from early stage damage assessments to recent work in the Registration Intake Centers and it has all proven to be vital in helping Mississippians rebuild and recover from Hurricane Zeta. Thank you to all members of the Individual Assistance Office for everything you’ve done to make the Zeta recovery process successful!
Dorothy Braley

Dorothy has been a valuable member of the Public Assistance team since September 2019. She always exhibits a can-do attitude with any task thrown her way and does it all with a smile. Dorothy is the definition of a team player by constantly putting others first and maintaining exceptional work ethic. Thank you for all that you do, Dorothy! Congratulations!

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE OFFICE OF PREPAREDNESS

February Training Courses

- February 2, 2021  
  G300: Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents
- February 9, 2021  
  G402: ICS Overview for Executives & Senior Officials
- February 10, 2021  
  G402: ICS Overview for Executives & Senior Officials
- February 10, 2021  
  Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS) Forms
- February 11, 2021  
  G402: ICS Overview for Executives & Senior Officials
- February 17, 2021  
  G191: Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface
- February 22, 2021  
  Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS) Forms
- February 23, 2021  
  G300: Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents
- February 23, 2021  
  G108: Community Mass Care & Emergency Assistance
- February 24, 2021  
  G400: Advanced ICS Command and General Staff - Complex Incidents

To Register:

- Visit: http://my.msema.org
- OR
- Contact Branch Director, Susan Hardy: 601-933-6364 or shardy@mema.ms.gov

Reminders

- Due to COVID-19, all courses will be conducted virtually.
- What you need:
  - Microsoft Teams
  - Web camera with microphone
  - Headphones

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE ON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2020 FROM 8:30-10:30 AM

New hires are required to attend the course live via Zoom. If you have already completed this course, you may watch the recorded version at a later time. Please contact Preparedness Office Director Loretta Thorpe at lthorpe@mema.ms.gov if you have any additional questions.
TO THE MEMA TEAM:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brant Bennett</td>
<td>Logistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Wade</td>
<td>Logistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalton Breedlove</td>
<td>Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keiosha Scott</td>
<td>Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Lee</td>
<td>Response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OFFICES CLOSED

PRESIDENTS’ DAY

DEFENSIVE DRIVING VIRTUAL COURSE
8:30-10:30 AM

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>