

# MEMA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021



## SPOTLIGHT: STATE WARNING POINT

The world of emergency management is a 24/7 operation where emergency managers must be ready at a moments notice to respond to any and all types of disasters. In order to be successful, conditions must be monitored and updated 24/7 by dedicated individuals. MEMA is the designated State Warning Point and the committed telecommunicators are the ones who work long, demanding hours to ensure that the agency is ready to respond whenever a disaster occurs, no matter the time of day.

MEMA's State Warning Point is comprised of two sections: Watch Desk and Telecommunications. The staff ensures that the state is monitored 24/7, 365. The state warning point is responsible for alerting state and local officials across Mississippi to all types of disasters. These types of alerts can include severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, flooding and hazardous materials incidents.



In addition to alerting stakeholders across the state whenever an incident occurs, they are also a vital part of the response phase directly following a disaster. As information rushes into the SEOC, they are the ones responsible for gathering this vital information and disseminating it through operational and weather summaries. The operational summary highlights the key information ranging from WebEOC requests made by the counties to deaths/injuries and a range of damage reports.

The dedication of this staff was amplified during the recent Winter Storm Event. While MEMA personnel teleworked, the State Warning Point remained manned the entire time. To do so, staff members chose to sleep at MEMA to ensure that no matter what, Mississippi was being monitored.

We can't thank the staff in our State Warning Point enough. Telecommunicators and Watch Desk officers, you are truly the backbone of the agency that keeps MEMA informed. Thank you!

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



## Susan Hardy

Susan has been a valuable member of the MEMA team for the past five years. She believes in the mission of MEMA and embodies the spirit of the agency. Susan is sincere, professional and always willing to lend a helping hand. She is truly dedicated to her service. Thank you for all that you do, Susan! Congratulations!

## WINTER WEATHER EVENT FEBRUARY 2021



## MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MCCRANEY

“ I’m deeply honored to lead this agency and have the opportunity to work with each and every one of you. MEMA has shown tremendous resilience over the past year and I could not be more proud of this team. With everything the last year has dealt us, your perseverance, dedication to this agency and to the citizens of this state is not going unnoticed. – Director McCraney ”



# WELCOME

# TO THE MEMA TEAM:

Kerrie Westbrooks  
Support Services

Erica Hibbler  
Housing/Individual Assistance

Ramous Austin  
Preparedness

# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 NWS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14  DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS	15	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			