



Mississippi Public Service Commission

Commissioner Wayne Carr, Southern District

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Southern District Public Service Commissioner Wayne Carr Encourages Mississippians to “Stand Ready” During National Preparedness Month

Gulfport, MS (September 15, 2026) – September is National Preparedness Month, and this year’s theme, “Americans Stand Ready,” highlights the importance of being prepared, self-reliant and ready to help others when disaster strikes.

Mississippi has seen firsthand how quickly severe weather can affect communities. Hurricanes, tornadoes, winter storms and other emergencies can damage homes and critical infrastructure, disrupt utility service, and create challenges that can last long after the storm has passed. Commissioner Carr is encouraging individuals and families to use National Preparedness Month as an opportunity to make a plan and prepare before an emergency occurs. Carr also encourages Mississippians to use preparedness resources from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and other trusted emergency management and weather organizations.

“I ask that everybody make a plan for your household, including your pets, so that you and your family know what to do and where to go and what you will need to protect yourself during a disaster,” said Commissioner Carr. “It doesn’t matter what Mother Nature throws at us, we’ll always come together, and I’m very proud of Mississippi for doing that.”

Preparedness also extends beyond individual households. Strong communities depend on working together before, during, and after a disaster. To continue that effort, Commissioner Carr will host the **From Recovery to Resilience: Mississippi Coastal Hurricane Preparedness Summit** on **Thursday, October 8, 2026**, at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Hospitality and Resort Management Center (420 Debuys Rd, Biloxi, MS 39531).

The **free, public summit** will bring together residents, utilities, emergency managers, local officials and other community stakeholders to discuss hurricane damage, recovery, and resilience. A **Community Resilience Expo** will run throughout the day, with speakers beginning at **9:00 a.m.**

Registration is free at <https://bit.ly/MPSCHurricaneSummit>.

###

For media inquiries, contact:
Arianna Ryker | *Public Relations Specialist*
O: (228) 374-2164 C: (769) 320-0396
arianna.ryker@psc.ms.gov