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Center for Governmental Training and Technology

March 3, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Elected and Appointed County and Municipal Officials with Emergency Management and Homeland Security Responsibilities and Interests

**FROM:** P. C. (Mac) McLaurin, Jr.  
Leader and Extension Professor of Local Government

**SUBJECT:** Invitation to Participate in Two Upcoming Conferences—The 2009 Mississippi All Hazards Preparedness Conference and the 2009 Gulf States Hurricane Conference

Ladies and gentlemen, those of us in the Center for Governmental Training & Technology in the Mississippi State University Extension Service invite you to participate in two major upcoming conferences dealing with current emergency management and homeland security issues. We join the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Mike Womack, Executive Director; the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MSOHS), J. W. Ledbetter, Director; and the Mississippi State Department of Health (MDOH), Dr. Ed Thompson, State Health Officer, in inviting you to these conferences.

To reduce costs for both state agency sponsors and participants, the 2009 Mississippi All Hazards Preparedness Conference, April 27-29, at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi is taking the place of two traditional annual conferences—the Governor’s Homeland Security Conference and the MEMA/MCDEMA (Mississippi Civil Defense Emergency Management Association) Annual Conference. The educational program at this “combined” conference is of superior quality and well worth your time. At the convention’s exhibit hall will be numerous vendors with the latest information on products and services of interest to you.

The 2009 Gulf States Hurricane Conference, April 29-May 1, at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi brings together emergency management personnel from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama to discuss current issues related to hurricane preparedness and response. The educational program at this conference is also first class as is the product and service information found in the exhibit hall.

You are invited to register for one or both of these “back-to-back” conferences depending upon your particular interests. Check with your contacts at MEMA, the MSOHS, and the MSDH for their policies concerning any agency financial participation in the cost of your attending the conferences.

Enclosed are the following items: a registration form to be used in registering for one or both of the conferences, preliminary conference programs, and hotel registration information for both conferences. I look forward to seeing you at one or both of the conferences.

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Attachments (4)



April 27—April 29, 2009



April 29—May 1, 2009

**REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCES  
MISSISSIPPI COLISEUM AND CONVENTION CENTER  
BILOXI, MS**

**PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED WITH REGISTRATION:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Registration - All Hazards Conference .....\$150
- \_\_\_\_\_ Registration - Hurricane Conference .....\$150
- \_\_\_\_\_ Registration - Both Conferences .....\$250

**Registration After April 9, 2009  
Per Conference .....\$200**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

Center for Governmental Training & Technology (CGT)  
Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU-ES)  
P. O. Box 9643  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

**We also accept these credit cards:**

American Express - MasterCard - VISA - Discover  
Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Cancellation Fee: \$50 will apply after April 9, 2009 MSU must receive cancellation requests in writing by April 9, 2009

**Send Cancellation requests to:**

Center for Governmental Training & Technology (CGT), Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU-ES)  
P. O. Box 9643 , MS State, MS 39762, E-mail sandyv@ext.msstate.edu , Fax No. 662-325-8954, Phone No. 662-325-3141

*The Mississippi All Hazards Preparedness Conference is sponsored by the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, the Mississippi State Department of Health, and the Mississippi Civil Defense Emergency Management Association. The Gulf States Hurricane Conference is sponsored by the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency. The Center for Governmental Training & Technology in the Mississippi State University Extension Service assisted in the coordination of parts of both conferences.*



**Hotel Information**  
**All Hazard Preparedness Conference - April 26 - 29, 2009**  
**Gulf States Hurricane Conference - April 29 - May 1, 2009**  
**ALL REGISTRANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

<b>Hotels:</b> IP Casino Resort & Spa Palace Casino Resort Hard Rock Hotel & Casino	<b>Instructions for Making Reservations:</b> 1. Select Hotel 2. Call Hotel and Identify Conference by Name and Code 3. Confirm special provisions for payment of room and security deposits required
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**Palace Casino Resort- 158 Howard Avenue, Biloxi, MS**

**Phone: 1-800-725-2239**

Block Name: Emergency Responder Preparedness Conference

Group No.: 4590

Dates: Sunday, April 26, 2009 - Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Block Name: Gulf States Hurricane Conference

Group No.: 4607

Dates: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 - Friday, May 1, 2009

Rates: \$69.00 Standard; \$79.00 Deluxe; \$89.00 Jacuzzi; \$250.00 suites - plus any applicable tax

**Plus: \$100.00 security deposit per room payable by credit card only**

Check In: 4:00 p.m. Check Out: 11:00 a.m.

**Reservation Deadline: March 26, 2009**

**Hard Rock Hotel & Casino - 777 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, MS**

**Phone: 1-877-877-6256**

**Email: [www.hardrockbiloxi.com](http://www.hardrockbiloxi.com)**

Block Name: All Hazard Preparedness Conference

Block Code: Responder

Dates: Sunday, April 26, 2009 - Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Block Name: Gulf States Hurricane Conference

Block Code: 0904GULFST

Dates: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 - Friday, May 1, 2009

Rates: \$109.00 Queen or King - plus any applicable tax

**Tax Exempt documentation must be send three (3) weeks prior to arrival for approval**

Check In: 4:00 p.m. Check Out: 12:00 p.m.

**Reservation Deadline: March 26, 2009**

**IP Casino Resort & Spa - 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS**

**Phone: 1-888-946-2847 (Ext # 1)**

**Email: [www.ipbiloxi.com](http://www.ipbiloxi.com)**

Block Name: Mississippi All Hazards Preparedness Conference Block Code: S090430

Dates: Sunday, April 26, 2009 - Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Block Name: Gulf States Hurricane Conference

Block Code: S040448

Dates: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 - Friday, May 1, 2009

Rates: \$80.00 Standard; \$100.00 Gulf View - plus any applicable tax (cash or credit card only)

**Plus: \$100.00 security deposit per room payable by cash or credit card only**

Check In: 4:00 p.m. Check Out: 11:00 a.m.

**Reservation Deadline: April 5, 2009**

VENDOR - BELLMAN ASSISTANCE

Advise hotel in advance of meeting for this service. Cost: \$5.00 per trip per bellman or a maximum of \$25.00 per hour per bellman