



Press Office
National Emergency Management Association
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EMAC ACTIVATES TO SUPPORT STATES IN PREPARATION FOR HURRICANE FLORENCE

Lexington, KY – The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), administered by NEMA, has been active since the weekend mobilizing to provide support to the states potentially impacted by Hurricane Florence. Mutual aid resources have already been requested through EMAC by South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland and Virginia.

EMAC is the nation's interstate mutual aid system which allows states to legally send resources across state lines during declared disasters and emergencies. EMAC also provides protections for personnel deploying into the disaster area such as tort liability, workers compensation, licensure reciprocity and reimbursement. Without these protections through EMAC, emergency responders crossing state lines would be vulnerable to financial and legal liability.

Resources pre-positioning ahead of Hurricane Florence include Advance Teams (A-Teams) of experienced state emergency management personnel who can assist the impacted state to identify mutual aid resource needs, make those requests to other states and help coordinate the assistance as it arrives in the state and is deployed to specific locations. Also, Search and Rescue Teams and equipment, Incident Management Teams, Logistics/Resource Management personnel, and National Guard resources and expertise. As of Tuesday morning, there were already 260 emergency response personnel deployed through EMAC to the requesting states.

NEMA has also deployed EMAC liaisons teams to work with FEMA in the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) in Washington, DC and the Regional Response Coordination Centers (RRCCs) in FEMA Regions II, III and IV. The EMAC liaisons provide situational awareness to FEMA and help ensure the seamless integration of mutual aid assets into the national response.

About EMAC

Established in 1996, EMAC was ratified by Congress and signed into law (Public Law 104-321). It is the first national disaster-relief compact to be ratified by Congress since the Civil Defense Compact of 1950. All members must pass state legislation approving their participation in EMAC. The compact is administered by the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA).

For more information on EMAC or NEMA, contact Karen Cobuluis, Media Coordinator, at (859) 244-8143 or e-mail kcobuluis@csg.org. Or visit the websites at <http://www.emacweb.org> or www.nemaweb.org.

NEMA is the association of professionals dedicated to enhancing public safety by improving the nation's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from all emergencies, disasters and threats to our security. NEMA is an affiliate organization of The Council of State Governments, headquartered in Lexington, Kentucky.

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