



STATE OF ALABAMA
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ALABAMA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Alabama EMA, Governor Bentley Host 2012 Hurricane Workshop

CLANTON - Governor Robert Bentley, Alabama EMA Director Art Faulkner, the Governor's cabinet members and other state leaders gathered Friday to discuss the state's operational plans if a hurricane impacts Alabama.

The Governor's 2012 Hurricane Workshop was held at the Alabama Emergency Management Agency in Clanton. This workshop included a scenario of a hurricane similar to the threat posed by Ivan in 2004. This allowed for in-depth discussions on several topics related to hurricane response such as the potential for evacuations, the possibility of lane reversal on Interstate-65 and emergency sheltering.

"The end result of this workshop is we are better prepared," Governor Bentley said. "By bringing various agencies and offices together in one workshop today, we were able to discuss our plans and communicate openly about needs when it comes to managing state-level response. Our first priority is to protect the citizens of this state, and we will work together with state and local leaders to ensure that public safety guides every decision that we make."

The Governor and state officials will be in contact with local leaders as various decisions are made throughout the planning and response process of any future storms.

As state agencies address preparedness, it is also important for residents to take time now to review and update their own hurricane plans before any severe weather threat approaches.

"Hurricane preparedness is not only a coastal issue, and Hurricane Ivan reminded us of that in 2004," said AEMA Director Art Faulkner. "As family dynamics change, it's important for all to be considered in the family emergency plans."

Hurricane season lasts from June 1st - November 30th. For more information on being prepared, visit ema.alabama.gov