



**College of Medicine**

Department of Pathology, Immunology and Laboratory Medicine  
Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System

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Friday, October 15, 2004

TO: Robert A. Smith, Ph.D.  
Director Emergency Operations  
Florida Department of Health

FROM: Larry R. Bedore  
FEMORS Commander

SUBJECT: After Action Report – Hurricane Jeanne, September 25-28, 2004, Mission #393

**Executive Summary**

This was the fourth alert of FEMORS since its inception in June 2002. FEMORS was able to determine its response capability within a few hours, provide pre-storm advice to medical examiners in the path of Jeanne, prestage a command post in an area outside of the storm's north-westerly path for potential response to east coast counties where the storm made landfall, and stand down its members when significant fatalities did not materialize.

- FEMORS provided pre-storm contact information to medical examiner districts in Jeanne's path on Friday September 24, 2004, suggesting pre-storm contact with the local EOC and methods to request assistance if the need arose.
- FEMORS was placed on alert at 10:00 am Saturday, September 25, 2004.
- FEMORS developed a Ready List of 63 team members who would be able to respond (assuming they were not impacted by Jeanne's path).
- Landfall occurred approximately 2:00 am Sunday, September 26, 2004.
- FEMORS was advised to stand down 11:00 am Tuesday, September 28, 2004.
- Approximately 90 labor hours were expended in this alert.

**Lessons Learned**

- Pre-storm notices to medical examiner offices arrived well in advance of the storm.
- Three previous alerts and two activations provided lessons that were put to good use in preparations.

**Event Time Line**

**September 23, 2004, Thursday**

5:00 am Advisory from NOAA. Jeanne’s path could lead up the east coast of Florida.



**September 24, 2004, Friday**

12:40 pm Cindy at SEOC, Logistics contacted Commander Bedore to advise that St. Lucie County EOC had requested, on behalf of the Medical Examiner Dr. Mittleman, that a large generator be pre-deployed and installed at the ME’s office. Cindy asked what FEMORS could bring when activated. She was advised that FEMORS has personnel but no equipment. Cindy would advise St. Lucie EOC of a local vendor for them to contract with.

1:00 pm Commander Bedore contacted SEOC, ESF8 Desk and advised Cicero Hartfield that FEMORS was in the process of contacting members to establish a ready list of responders. Most SEOC staff were in a meeting at that time.

1:55 pm Commander Bedore sent e-mail messages to possible areas of impact.

- District 18 Dr. Paulino Vassallo
- District 19 Dr. Roger Mittleman
- District 7-24 Dr. Thomas Beaver
- District 9 Dr. Jan Garavaglia
- District 10 Dr. Stephen Nelson

2:30 pm E-mail alert message was sent to members to prepare ready list.

11:30 pm Ready List of 48 members was prepared.



**September 25, 2004, Saturday**

7:00 am Commander Bedore contacted Ronnie Fetsco at SEOC, ESF8. Governor’s declaration had not yet been issued. Official alert to FEMORS had not yet been issued.

10:00 am Mike MacDonald at SEOC ESF8 contacted Commander Bedore with official Alert notification. Mission #393. Permission was sought and obtained to have a FEMORS member, Tommy Doyle in Tallahassee, pick up the RV Command Post and drive it down to Pinellas before the storm moves onshore. Additionally Mission



#412 was issued to arrange for a Tampa vendor to have 2 reefers on standby once a location has been determined.

12:00 pm Commander Bedore contacted Tommy Doyle to activate and arrange for RV transport. His contact in Logistics would be Telisha Runyon or Drew at 850-245-4569.

8:00 pm Ready List updated to 63 members depending on area of impact.

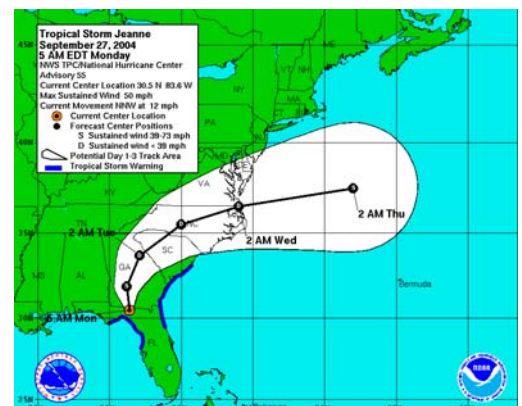
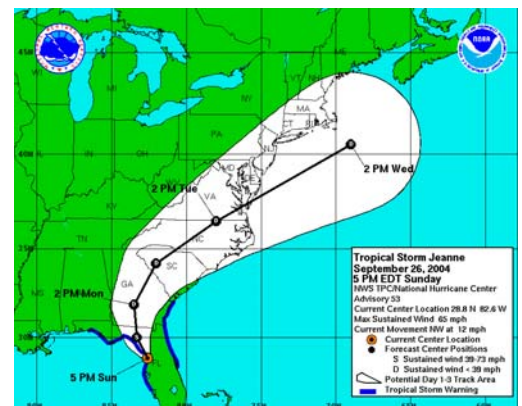
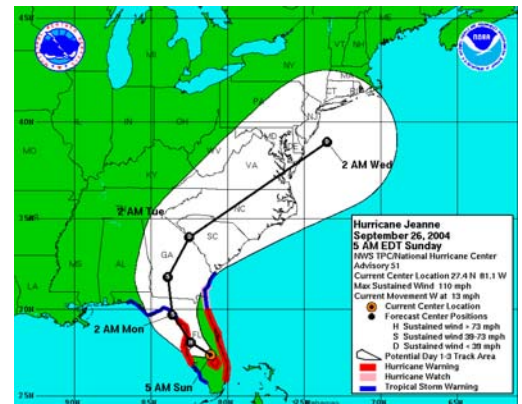
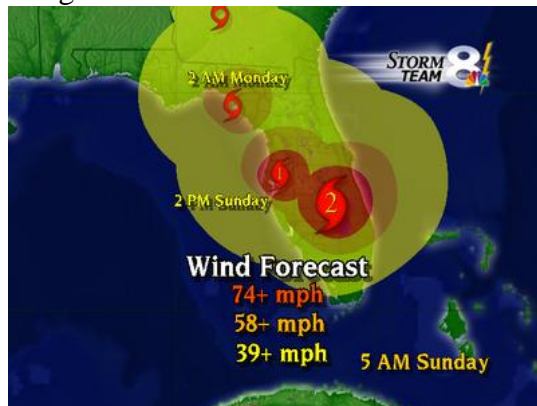
9:00 pm Tommy Doyle arrived in Pinellas with RV.

9:25 pm Inspection of the RV revealed that the generator was not functioning properly and would shut off after a few minutes of use. Commander Bedore contacted logistics to request that the vendor be contacted regarding repair options.

**September 26, 2004, Sunday**

2:00 am Jeanne made landfall at Martin/St. Lucie Counties

5:00 am Jeanne continued to move west and had not turned north as expected. Pinellas was due to receive hurricane force winds mid morning.



Afternoon: Tested generator several times without success.

8:50 pm Commander Bedore contacted ESF8 for update. No reports in yet. Remained on alert status.

**September 27, 2004, Monday**

8:45 am Commander Bedore contacted ESF8 for update. No reports in yet.

9:45 am ESF8 contacted Commander Bedore to request that the RV be maintained in Pinellas for one more day as search and rescue teams were just entering the interior counties. Remained on alert status.

10:30 am Commander Bedore contacted logistics to request that the vendor be contacted regarding RV repair options.

11:10 am Logistics advised that vendor has no subcontractors in the Tampa area and that repairs should be made at any RV repair shop available.

12:00 pm Commander Bedore dropped the RV off for repairs at G.A. Clifford RV Repair in Largo.

4:15 pm Repair shop advised that even after the bad auxiliary battery was replaced, the circuit board appears to be damaged and needs replacement. A replacement could be obtained and installed on Tuesday morning.

**September 28, 2004, Tuesday**

11:00 am Mike MacDonald at SEOC ESF8 contacted Commander Bedore to advise of stand down and that RV could be returned to SEOC.

12:00 pm RV repairs were completed and Mr. Doyle began return trip with RV to SEOC.

4:00 pm FEMORS team was advised of stand down.