



The 7th Express

Proudly Moving Alabama's 7th Congressional District Forward

Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell

May 2, 2011

Rebuilding Alabama

Greetings!

The 7th Express is on the move! This newsletter is a way to track our progress and provide you with important information. You can subscribe to this newsletter by visiting our website. Please forward to others so that they can stay informed. [Click here](#) to visit our website.

Statement from Congresswoman Sewell on April 15 and April 27 Storms and Tornadoes

"My thoughts and prayers are with the families that lost loved ones in the April 15 and April 27 storms and tornadoes. My thoughts are also with the many families and communities that suffered devastation to their homes and properties. The Seventh Congressional District has experienced back-to-back storm and tornado devastation within the last three weeks. In these difficult times, I know that the resilient spirit of our communities will see us through.

I have been in touch with local, state and federal officials, and my staff and I will be on the ground in our communities to assist in assessing the extent of the damage and help begin the recovery and rebuilding process.

I applaud the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and President Obama for immediately issuing an emergency disaster declaration, and subsequently a major disaster declaration for Alabama. There is a huge clean up and recovery ahead of us, and we are going to need federal assistance to help residents deal with the aftermath of these tornadoes and heavy storms.

My office will continue to work with federal, state and local officials to ensure that we are doing all we can to assist the victims in the days ahead as we begin to rebuild."



President Obama Issues a Major Disaster Declaration for Alabama



During their visit to Alabama, President Obama hugs Rep. Sewell, as first lady Michelle Obama looks on.
(AP Photo/Butch Dill)

On **April 28, 2011**, President Obama issued a major disaster declaration for the State of Alabama, triggering the release of Federal funds to help individuals and communities recover from the Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding, beginning April 15, 2011, and continuing. Details of the disaster declaration and assistance programs are as follows:

Individual Assistance

Individual Assistance can include temporary housing assistance for eligible applicants such as rental assistance and repair assistance. Residents of Cullman, DeKalb, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Marshall, Tuscaloosa, Walker, Sumter, and Marengo Counties are eligible for Individual Assistance and are encouraged to register with FEMA.

How You Can Register

Telephone: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), TTY - (800) 462-7585 for individuals with speech or hearing disabilities.

Internet: You may apply for disaster assistance online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
[FEMA's Help after a Disaster Guide](#)

Public Assistance

Public Assistance is assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. All 67 counties in the State of Alabama for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct Federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program.

Resources, Contact Information, and Updates for Alabama's families, communities, and businesses

[How Do I Receive Disaster Assistance?](#)

Our office has prepared a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help you and your family access disaster assistance.
Call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

[Agency Assistance Contact Information](#)

Our office has prepared a list of Numbers for local agencies that can assist you.
Call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

[How You Can Help](#)

Donations and Volunteering

Red Cross: 1-800-REDCROSS (733-2767)

Salvation Army: (205) 328-5656 or (205) 758-2804

It is an honor to serve the 7th District in Congress.
I'll be back in touch again soon.

Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress