



# State of Alabama

## Unified Command

### Alabama Claims Action Team

#### Robertsdale, Alabama

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### **ALABAMA EMA AND NATIONAL GUARD OIL SPILL CLAIMS EFFORT CONTINUES ACROSS COASTAL COUNTIES**

**Robertsdale, AL** – Some 200-plus personnel from the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) and Alabama National Guard have spent the last week in Baldwin and Mobile counties informing residents, workers and business owners about the BP oil spill claims process. The Alabama Claims Action Team (ACAT) underwent training and a briefing on June 8<sup>th</sup> before hitting the streets with informational packets the next day.

As the oil began to impact Alabama, Governor Riley became concerned residents and businesses were not filing claims for losses at high enough rates. The Governor's order was for teams to personally approach business owners, workers and citizens with information about how to apply for funds to cover their losses and to refute inaccurate rumors.

National Guard teams led by AEMA staff members have visited hundreds of businesses and workers from the beach on northward. Teams have set up tables at local grocery and retail stores, met with civic groups and walked door-to-door to businesses. Their efforts have paid off with the number of Alabamians filing claims rising from just over 3,000 a little more than a week ago to nearly 17,000 as of Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. BP has paid out more than \$15.5 million dollars in primarily lost wages claims. The company says no Alabama claims have been denied.

"This is an example of Alabamians helping their fellow Alabamians," says Alabama Department of Homeland Security Director Jim Walker, who is directing the operation. "The troops and EMA personnel have worked through 100° heat and thunderstorms to get the word out that there is a way to recoup income lost due to this disaster."

ACAT teams will continue the claims mission until it is determined that Alabamians have received adequate information about how to file their loss claim. The claims mission may have to be adjusted somewhat to comply with any changes made by an independent claims commission named by the White House earlier this week to oversee the process. Teams will continue to meet with community organizations, faith-based groups, businesses and anyone requesting information.

To be eligible to receive payment, workers and business owners must call the claims hotline at **1-800-440-0858** to receive a claim number. This number will remain with the claimant throughout the process. Claimants will not be required to have multiple claims numbers for additional future claims. Additionally, there is no limit to the amount of compensation a claimant may receive for a legitimate claim.

ACAT personnel are utilizing services of local businesses and vendors in their endeavor to help boost the local economy.

Below are highlights of the information being provided to potential claimants:

Claim Documentation Examples (THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS MAY OR MAY NOT BE REQUIRED—THIS WILL DEPEND ON YOUR SPECIFIC CASE)

***Individual***

- W—2 (if applicable);
- 1099 (if applicable);
- Description of how you were impacted by the incident;
- Loss calculation (historical wage information and current wage information) ;
- Employer Name (if applicable);
- Letter from employer indicating employee was let go due to the incident (if applicable)
- Any other documentation to substantiate your loss (if applicable).

***Business***

- Consult with your financial advisor if applicable;
- If you do not have a financial advisor you can contact your local Chamber of Commerce to find one (note: expenses incurred can be submitted as part of your claim);
- Business license number;
- Description of your business;
- Description of how your business was impacted by the incident;
- Tax returns;
- Historical monthly P&L detailing revenue and expenses;
- Current monthly P&L;
- Loss calculation (historical revenue and current revenue); and
- Any other documentation you can provide to substantiate your loss.

**BP Claims Office Locations:**

**Foley:**

1505 North McKenzie St. (Hwy 59), Suite 104  
800-573-8249

**Gulf Shores:**

24039 Perdido Beach Blvd., Suite 1  
800-573-8249

**Bayou LaBatre:**

N. Wintzell Avenue  
800-573-8249

**Dauphin Island:**  
1008 Alabama Ave.  
800-573-8249

**Mobile:**  
325 E. I-65 Service Road (Beltline Hwy), Suite 1  
800-573-8249

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is the lead agency for the state's response to the oil spill under the Unified Command. ADEM is coordinating efforts for a wide range of state agencies that are involved in responding to the situation. Additional information and updates regarding the oil spill and Alabama's response may be obtained at [www.adem.alabama.gov](http://www.adem.alabama.gov).

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