

**New York State Department of Environmental  
Conservation**

**Office of Natural Resources, Region One**

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January 9, 2006

Colonel Christopher A. Knight, Director  
Florida Highway Patrol  
Neil Kirkman Building  
2900 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RE: Jackson County Hurricane Katrina Response

Dear Director Knight,

I am the Logistics Chief for the State of New York Incident Management Team that assisted Jackson County in September 2005 responding to their Emergency Operations. A regional Food, Ice and Water distribution site was set up at the County Fairgrounds managed by the National Guard and controlled by members of the Florida Highway Patrol.

The County Fairgrounds became the *new* County Offices due to the extensive flood damage that had occurred in downtown Pascagoula. Sergeant M.D. Hensley was our contact person for the Florida Highway Patrol. His cooperation and response to every request for assistance was outstanding, professional and courteous to our team and the citizens of Jackson County.

Sergeant Hensley's ability to coordinate, his positive "can do attitude" led to our successful transition of County services to this location. He was supported by the following troopers: Trp. Ronald Drake, Trp. William Fodem, Trp. Larry Kraus, Trp. Timothy Berg, Trp. William Kindler, Trp. Jessie Hinson, Trp. Derrick Wood and Trp. Hazen Ogden.

These Troopers performed under extreme temperature conditions and long working hours were always pleasant, courteous and supportive of the people of Jackson County. They were always there when any Agency needed assistance with a positive attitude.

On behalf of our Incident Management Team I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the services provided by the Florida Highway Patrol and led by Sergeant M.D. Hensley in Jackson County, Mississippi for Hurricane Katrina Recovery Operations.

Thank you and Best Wishes for the New Year to yourself and the Florida Highway Patrol.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles T. Hamilton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Charles T. Hamilton  
Logistics Chief NYSIMAT

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