



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

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Board Memo 144-2024: Update on Hurricane Helene in the Southern and Atlantic Regions

Executive Board,

NAPS headquarters received an update from Rae Ann Haight, the Office of National Preparedness, regarding Hurricane Helene. The information provided below is as of September 29th.

Overall: Multi*state Hurricane Helene recovery ongoing in two (2) Areas and seven (7) districts. *Southern Area with five (5) districts* (FL1, FL2, GA, SC, TN) and *Atlantic Area with two (2) districts* (NC, VA). Civil infrastructure, flood intrusion, and cellular challenges are currently greatest impacts. Information current as of 1300 ET

People:

- Ten (10) Employees *unaccounted* for:
 - *Southern* (1) FL2 District – 1 AWOL for past month in R&D, USPIS assisting
 - *Atlantic* (9) – NC District – 9; union assisting; cell phone towers down in western NC
- Sixty-seven (67) known personal impacts to employees (homes, vehicles)
 - *Southern* (51): GA – 25, TN – 5; SC – 6, FL2 – 11, Gulf Atlantic Div – 3; SE Div – 1
 - *Atlantic* (16): NC – 16
- Employee Availability challenges in four (4) locations due to curfews, road issues, school closures
 - *Southern* (3) GA at 80% in impacted areas; SC at 79%; Augusta PDC 66%
 - *Atlantic* (1) – NC
- Curfews in effect: *Southern* (2) FL2 – 1, Anna Marie; GA – 5 counties; *Atlantic* (6) NC – 6 counties
- Ongoing inventory and coordinated distribution of bottled water and MREs. Topeka CRS dispatched one (1) trailer of water to stage at Atlanta RPDC.
- Procuring necessary items, such as port-a-potties, hand sanitizer, for sites with compromised water treatment facilities

Property:

Inaccessible (6) due to bridge or road closures

- *Southern* (1) – [TN – 1]
- *Atlantic* (5) – [NC – 5]

Facility Assessments (40)

- *Southern* (25)
 - UNSAFE to occupy (12): FL1 – 4; FL2 – 5; GA - 3
 - Awaiting results (13): FL1 – 1; FL2 – 5; GA – 6; TN – 1
- *Atlantic* (15)
 - Awaiting results (15): NC –13; VA – 2

Power Outages (310):

- Retail & Delivery

- *Southern* (197): FL1 – 13 on gens; TN – 2 on gens; SC – 78 with 18 on gens; GA – 104 with 23 on gens
- *Atlantic* (113): NC – 85; VA – 28
- Processing
 - Tallahassee PDC on generator power

Product:

- Four (4) Emergency Mobile Fuel tankers deployed and in use for GA – 2; SC – 2; EMF team readying fuel assets to support Asheville NC area
- Amazon has not delivered volume to 304, 308, 309 (GA) and 294, 298, 299 (SC Charleston area) since Hurricane Helene landfall; HQ sent expected inventories and Amazon restart to leadership so both districts can work on resource contingencies to handle the inbound volume
- IT is providing support for wireless needs for sites without power but have cell service capabilities
- Field Maintenance redirecting mobile generators and other equipment throughout affected areas as power comes back online
- Delivery continues in all accessible locations, only where safe to do so (extensive road closures / washed-out roads)
- Expecting non-deliveries for inaccessible locations; all will be recorded in DCV and FDB

COOP'd / Suspended offices:

Southern:

- TN District: Two (2) COOP'd offices with Mobile Retail Units inbound; Hartford collection box swept away was found and being recovered.
- FL1: Four (4) COOP'd offices; 1 suspended
- FL2 District: Ten (10) offices COOP'd, with two Mobile Retail Units inbound; 10 vehicles in Punta Gorda being repaired for service
- GA District: Per latest service alert, All retail and delivery operations for facilities in the 315 and 316 3-Digit Zip Code Areas (minus 8 open offices) are temporarily suspended. 85 facilities are suspended in 304, 305, 308, 309, 313; 1 COOP'd office. Power outages creating E*LOCK issues – scanners being taken to sites with power
- SC District: 78 retail offices without power, some will be in degraded mode

Atlantic

- NC, per latest Industry Alert: All retail and delivery operations for facilities in the 286, 287, 288, and 289 3-Digit ZIP Code areas are suspended. 39 facilities are suspended in 270, 272, 273, 280, 281
- VA – Abingdon COOP is named offload site for two (2) offices

Communications:

- Employee Emergency Hotline is being updated
- Employee standup talks continue
- Unions and Management Associations are being briefed daily
- Districts and Divisions continue to track employee personal impacts as they are reported; EAP and PERF being shared
- Service / Industry Alerts are continuing to change as power is restored. All alerts are being reviewed, approved, and loaded to usps.com
- Congressional outreach and Election outreach continues
- Monitoring FEMA Region 4 outreach, shelters, and corresponding activities related to COAs, COOP sites, and election mail

Please share this information with your membership.

Thank you and be safe.
NAPS Headquarters