



THE MISSISSIPPI BAR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Mississippi Bar Responds to the Legal Needs of Victims of the April Tornadoes

As a result of the recent devastating tornadoes in Mississippi, the Young Lawyer Division Disaster Legal Services Committee of The Mississippi Bar in conjunction with FEMA, the American Bar Association and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency is implementing disaster assistance efforts to assist victims in Alcorn, Attala, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Holmes, Neshoba, Webster, Clarke, Greene, Hinds, Jasper, Kemper, Lafayette, LeFlore, Marshall, Montgomery, Monroe, Newton, Panola, Quitman, Smith, Sunflower, Tishomingo, Tunica, and Winston Counties. Free disaster legal assistance is now being provided for individuals who were affected by the tornadoes. The toll free number for the Young Lawyers Division Disaster Legal Assistance is 1-877-691-6185 and is now accepting calls Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Examples of services offered include:

- Assistance with insurance claims (life, medical, property, etc.)
- Counseling on landlord/tenant problems
- Assistance with home repair contracts
- Assistance in consumer protection-foreclosure problems
- Replacement of wills and other important legal documents destroyed in the disaster
- Drafting of powers of attorney
- Preparation of guardianships and conservatorships

- Referring individuals to local and state agencies that may be of further assistance (e.g. consumer affairs)

Tornado victims may call the toll free number and a volunteer attorney will respond by telephone to answer their legal questions. The goal in this effort is to provide free assistance to those affected by the tornadoes on legal issues they are facing.

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