



# MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **SAFETY TIPS DURING AN EARTHQUAKE**

**PEARL--** The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and local emergency management directors would like to remind citizens that although the greatest risk of earthquake damage is in the northern portion of the state, all of our citizens should learn what to do to stay safe if an earthquake strikes.

- **Learn to DROP, COVER and HOLD ON!** Practice the drill at least twice a year with your family to drop under a sturdy desk or table and hold on to one leg of the table or desk.
- **Pick a safe place in every room of your home**, such as under a sturdy table or desk or against an interior wall away from windows, bookcases or tall furniture that could fall on you.
- **Wait in your safe place until the shaking stops, then check to see if you are hurt.** Be ready for additional earthquakes called “aftershocks.”
- **Talk with your insurance agent.** Different areas have different requirements for earthquake protection. Study locations of active faults, and if you are at risk, consider purchasing earthquake insurance.
- **If you are in a car during an earthquake, stay in the car with your seatbelt fastened.**
- **If you are outside during an earthquake, stay outside.** Move away from buildings, trees, streetlights and power lines. Crouch down and cover your head.

Governor Haley Barbour has declared this week as Earthquake Awareness Week in Mississippi.

For information on preparing an all-hazards disaster survival kit and tips for protecting your property against earthquakes, visit MEMA online at [www.msema.org](http://www.msema.org) and click the “Preparedness” link. Additional information is available from CUSEC at [www.cusec.org](http://www.cusec.org), USGS at [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov) and from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

For more information, contact MEMA External Affairs at 866-920-MEMA (6362), or visit us online at [www.msema.org](http://www.msema.org).

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*“Disaster Preparedness Saves Lives and Property”*  
Visit us online at [www.msema.org](http://www.msema.org)