



## Storm Update



Friday, September 01, 2017

### Harvey Lumbers toward Tennessee and Alabama, Catastrophe Services<sup>SM</sup> Moves Temporary Operations to Houston

Rescue efforts are still the top priority for emergency response personnel in Houston. News sources report that approximately 32,000 evacuees are in shelters in the area, and police officers, firefighters and volunteer rescue teams are working around the clock to get survivors to safety. Meanwhile, Harvey forced evacuations in some areas of Tennessee and Alabama on Thursday. Some Nashville residents were encouraged to evacuate due to flooding, while a tornado caused minor damage and injuries in Reform, Alabama<sup>1</sup>.

Crawford<sup>®</sup> Catastrophe Services is in the process of moving its temporary storm operations to Houston in order to facilitate a rapid response to increasing claim volume. "Our goal right now is to identify a safe place to setup our operations in proximity to affected areas so that we can continue to respond to client needs as soon as possible. We anticipate that our team will be working onsite in Houston for at least 30 days, maybe more," said U.S. Property & Casualty CEO, Ken Tolson.

In addition to adjusters, Crawford's drone operators are flying in areas where the Federal Aviation Administration has lifted flight restrictions. "Drones are extremely useful in this context, allowing us to assess damage while minimizing the safety risk to our team members," continued Tolson "A typical assessment takes only 15 minutes of air time, and the data they collect is very accurate, which means we get more detailed metrics in less time."

The Crawford control center is also keeping a close watch on Hurricane Irma, currently developing in the Atlantic Ocean. Though the potential to make landfall is not projected until next weekend, Irma is gaining strength rapidly. It was upgraded to a Category 3 hurricane yesterday.<sup>2</sup>

While our priority is on Harvey, we will continue to monitor this storm as it develops in the Atlantic.

**For assistance with Hurricane Harvey or other catastrophic events, contact our 24-hour ClaimsAlert<sup>®</sup> call center at 1-877-346-0300.**

**Sending employees to areas affected by Harvey? Broadspire Chief Medical Officer Dr. Marcos Iglesias tells you what you need to know about protecting against waterborne diseases and other risks. [Learn more.](#)**

**Crawford ClaimsAlert**

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1 Weather.com "Harvey Beyond Houston: Possible Tornado Causes Damage in Alabama; Tennessee Flooding Prompts Evacuations" Retrieved 9/1/17 from <https://weather.com/storms/hurricane/news/beatmont-texas-loses-water-supply-due-to-neches-river-flooding>

2 Weather.com "Hurricane Irma to Intensify over the Eastern Atlantic Ocean This Weekend; May Threaten Leeward Islands Next Week" Retrieved 9/1/17 from <https://weather.com/storms/hurricane/news/hurricane-irma-major-hurricane-atlantic-ocean>

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