THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 28, 2005

The Honorable Bob Riley
Governor of Alabama
State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Riley:

I have declared a emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5202, for the State of Alabama due to the emergency conditions resulting from Hurricane Katrina, beginning on August 28, 2005, and continuing. I have authorized Federal relief in the affected area.

The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), intends to coordinate all disaster relief efforts that have the purpose of alleviating the hardship and suffering caused by the emergency on the local population and to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives, protect public health and safety, protect property, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in the affected areas. Specifically, FEMA is authorized to provide direct assistance and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B), including direct Federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program. Any Federal funds for Public Assistance will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs.

FEMA will coordinate Federal assistance efforts and designate specific areas eligible for such assistance. The Federal Coordinating Officer will be Mr. Ron Thoman of FEMA. He will consult with you and assist in the execution of the FEMA-State Agreement for emergency assistance governing the expenditure of Federal funds.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

08/28/2005 05:35PM