## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Kay Ivey
Governor

STATE CAPITOL MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

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## STATE OF ALABAMA

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

All State Department/Agency Heads

From:

Governor Kay Ivey

Date:

September 10, 2017

Re:

Emergency Closures of State Offices and Buildings

Due to the existing State of Emergency, I am directing that all state offices and buildings in the following counties be closed on Monday, September 11, 2017:

Barbour, Blount, Bullock, Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Coffee, Coosa, Dale, Elmore, Etowah, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Macon, Montgomery, Pike, Randolph, Russell, St. Clair, Talladega, Tallapoosa, and any other county hereafter placed under a Tropical Storm Warning by the National Weather Service.

Weather conditions are expected to be both extreme and severe and travel in many areas may be restricted.

In all other counties, each state and local agency head is authorized to make closure determinations based on local weather conditions. The inherent uncertainty of a storm like Hurricane Irma means that agency heads should be vigilant in monitoring changing conditions. Because the safety of state employees is of overriding concern, each agency/department director is authorized to advise his or her employees that – subject to the requirements of their position – if dangerous conditions exist, employees will not be required to report to work and will not be charged leave. I direct agency heads to report closures to local media outlets.

Each state agency head is reminded that this authority is to be exercised based upon the specific need to protect the health and safety of individual employees. This authority should be exercised judiciously and not necessarily in blanket fashion, taking into account the level of risk of severe weather in the locality from Hurricane Irma or its remnants moving through Alabama.

Departments providing public safety and direct care services must plan and schedule their activities accordingly, with the heads of those agencies/departments determining staffing needs and work requirements to ensure the continued operation of essential and emergency services.

I urge you to communicate with your employees and please stay connected with my office for further updates and developments. You can get information from my website at governor.alabama.gov/Irma.