



Chatham County Board of Commissioners  
124 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401

## **CEMA Enters Operating Condition 4, the Enhanced Monitoring Phase, at 8 AM**

SAVANNAH, GA – (September 5, 2017) The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) is closely monitoring Hurricane Irma and any impacts it may make to our area. CEMA will advance to OPGON 4 tomorrow at 8 AM, which means enhanced monitoring.

Irma, is a Category 5 Hurricane with maximum sustained winds at 180 mph, moving at 14 mph and tropical storm force winds extending 160 miles from the center of the storm. Residents and businesses should monitor your normal sources for current weather information.

Individuals, families, and businesses are encouraged to begin common storm preparation efforts:

- Monitor local authorities for advice and protective actions.
- Prepare or inspect your emergency supply kit, and do not forget your pet's kit too.
- Create or update your family evacuation plan, detailing how and where you will evacuate and where you could meet if separated.
- Document important belongings and consider taking pictures or video.
- Inspect your property for loose, lightweight items that could become airborne.
- If you have functional access or medical needs call the Chatham County Public Health Department to sign up for the registry, (912) 691-7443.

Throughout the day, CEMA's OPGON 4 activities will include:

- Conducting coordination conference calls with local partners, surrounding emergency management agencies, the National Weather Service, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and neighboring states for activities and information sharing.
- Initiating a Level 3 activation of the Emergency Operations Center. This level is a more heightened level of awareness and consists of CEMA staff and select partners.

Sending regular updates via social media and posting pertinent information on CEMA's Website.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Catherine Glasby**  
**Public Information Officer**  
**Chatham County**  
**912-652-7897**