



## Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

### News Release

For Immediate Release: May 4, 2010

### Unemployment Assistance Available to Workers in DeKalb and Marshall Counties

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Director Tom Surtees announced today that workers who became unemployed as a direct result of recent storms in DeKalb and Marshall counties may qualify for unemployment assistance.

People who live in or worked in these counties and became unemployed due to the severe storms, flooding, tornadoes, and straight-line winds during the period of April 24-25, 2010 may be eligible for the assistance under the Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program, which was triggered when President Obama designated the area as a disaster area on May 3, 2010.

“This assistance is intended to help those affected by severe weather to get back on their feet,” said Surtees. “Storms like these can devastate communities, and we hope to be able to help minimize the damage by allowing families to continue paying their bills until they can become employed again.”

Claims can be filed through DIR’s website at [www.dir.alabama.gov](http://www.dir.alabama.gov) or by calling 1-866-234-5382. The deadline to file a DUA claim is **June 3, 2010**.

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*Members of the media seeking more information should contact Public Information Officer Tara Hutchison at (334) 242-8616.*