



Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

News Release

For Immediate Release: May 4, 2010

DIR to Open Satellite Office to Assist Gulf Coast Workers

MONTGOMERY –Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Director Tom Surtees announced today that a satellite office will be opened in Bayou La Batre, Alabama, to assist workers who have lost their jobs or may lose their jobs due to circumstances arising from the Gulf Oil Slick.

The satellite office will be located at the Bayou La Batre Public Library, 12747 Padgett Switch Road Irvington, AL. It is expected to open on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. The hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the office will remain open until the need is no longer present.

“Not everyone who is affected may be eligible to receive unemployment compensation benefits at this time,” said Surtees. “However, I would like to strongly encourage anyone who is affected to go ahead and file. By going ahead and filing a claim now, your information will already be in the system, and that will speed up the progress of your claim should you become eligible for benefits in the future.”

Affected workers will be able to file claims for unemployment compensation and receive assistance from trained staff on site. Ten portable units will be in place to allow workers to file electronically. Of course, workers may continue to file online at www.dir.alabama.gov or by phone by calling 1-866-234-5382.

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