



# Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

## News Release

For Immediate Release: June 26, 2009

### Bullock County Added to Disaster Area

*Unemployment Assistance Available to Workers in Autauga, Bullock, Elmore, and Montgomery Counties*

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Director Tom Surtees announced today Bullock County has been added to the list of counties declared a disaster area. Workers who became unemployed in these counties may be eligible for additional unemployment compensation benefits. The four counties declared as disaster areas are Autauga, Bullock, Elmore, and Montgomery.

People who live in or worked in these counties and become unemployed due to the severe storms, flooding, tornadoes, and straight-line winds during the period of May 6-8 may be eligible for the assistance under the Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program.

“Generally, those who are eligible for state unemployment benefits are not eligible for DUA, but a claimant may qualify if state unemployment compensation benefits are exhausted,” said Surtees. “If you believe you are entitled to these benefits, I urge you to contact the Department of Industrial Relations to see if you are eligible.”

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 for Autauga, Elmore, and Montgomery counties is **July 22, 2009**. The deadline to file a DUA claim for Bullock county is **July 27, 2009**.

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