

## Dallas County Judge Jenkins Urges Residents to be Prepared

## For Immediate Release May 15, 2015

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins has placed the Dallas County Emergency Operations Center on enhanced alert through Sunday at midnight. The enhanced alert may be extended as weather patterns indicate a continued chance of rain over the next several days and the National Weather Service has put Dallas County under a Flash Flood Watch from Saturday afternoon until Sunday morning. Homeland Security and Emergency Management staff will be monitoring the situation closely to ensure the residents of Dallas County remain informed and are kept safe.

"Failing to plan is planning to fail. We all have a job to do. Please make sure you know what to do in case of flooding and severe weather," said County Judge Clay Jenkins.

Below are several important flood preparedness tips from <a href="www.Ready.gov">www.Ready.gov</a>:

- Know your flood risk by entering your address here: www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding flood risks/defining flood risks.jsp.
- Know your evacuation routes; plan your transportation and a place to stay
- Practice how you will communicate with family members
- Store supplies so you can grab them quickly if you need to evacuate; know in advance what else you will need to take
- Elevate critical utilities like electrical panels, appliances and heating systems
- Waterproof the basement
- Clear debris from gutters and downspouts
- Move furniture, valuables, and important documents to a safe place

You can find more information on how to prepare for and respond to a flood and severe weather at the following website:

• <u>www.Ready.gov</u> (Spanish language site <u>www.Listo.gov</u>)

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