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FRANKLIN COUNTY

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# PRESS RELEASE

## Franklin County Creates New Emergency Management Office

*Randall Likens accepts the challenge to improve emergency preparedness*

**Louisburg, August 22, 2006:** Franklin County's Office of Emergency Management has now officially been created. The change is effective today, taking emergency management operations from the umbrella of the Franklin County Emergency Services Department and operating as its own coordinating entity under the direction of former Emergency Services Deputy Director Randall Likens. The mission of this office will be to advise the board of commissioners and county manager on policy matters related to emergency management preparedness and response. Functionally, the Emergency Management Office is responsible for the affairs of emergency management planning, fire marshal, and risk management and safety. This transition is operationally appropriate to ensure the county maximizes its planning and budgetary obligations as they relate to overall preparedness and disaster operations compliance expectations.

Pursuant to the organizational realignment, the Emergency Services Department will now be identified as the Emergency Medical Services Department, consistent with the more narrow focus of the department's mission to deliver emergency medical services with county staff and coordinate with volunteer rescue squads under the direction of Johnnie Gilliam.

For additional information, contact Chris Coudriet, Franklin County Manager at (919) 496-5994 or visit Franklin County's website at [www.co.franklin.nc.us](http://www.co.franklin.nc.us).

*Franklin County Government is committed to effective and innovative public services for all Franklin County citizens and businesses.*