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**Rolling Fork Tornado**

**Patrick O'Brien**

On Friday, March 24th, 2023, a tornado cut its path through Rolling Fork, and Sharkey County, Mississippi. The National Weather Service in Jackson estimated top wind speeds of 170 miles per hour from this tornado, which was additionally estimated to be three-quarters of a mile in width. The deadly tornado tore through the area, leaving devastation to be managed by citizens and families. And Emergency physicians. The Mississippi Delta and its surrounding areas had no plea to make: immediately, emergency personnel jumped into action. Emergency physicians, nurses, staff, technicians, transport, and medical students have been and certainly remain affected. And challenged. What used to be a quaint Mississippi town and the county seat of Sharkey County has been virtually scraped from the map. Like the Mississippi Gulf Coast in 2005 for Hurricane Katrina, Rolling Fork and Sharkey County were – and largely remain - unrecognizable. What's not unrecognizable is spirit of resilience from Mississippians. Emergency physicians, and their many collaborators, dove into action. From the Gulf Coast, central Mississippi, the Delta, efforts came. Some hours after this disaster, triage teams were deployed, under the advisement and direction of emergency physicians. In collaboration with many state agencies, to include the Mississippi Department of Health and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, emergency physicians used their experience to set up a mobile field hospital, providing care, as immediately as possible, to Rolling Fork and the surrounding communities. These unpredictable and unwanted visitors to Mississippi's Tornado Alley are, unfortunately, certain to return. However, with these challenges will also return a more resilient and experienced disaster preparedness response, at the helm of which will, again, be the efforts of emergency physicians in Mississippi.

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## Graduating in June? Renew Today. Get Discounted Dues, and Stay Involved

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! ACEP and MS-ACEP have been with you throughout your training, and we're excited to stay by your side as you continue your EM journey. ACEP is the only EM organization that invested \$1M+ of our member dues dollars to push back on scope creep. ACEP is currently involved in – not one, but nine -lawsuits to protect your autonomy and reimbursement. We also know money is tight. That's why ACEP discounts dues 75 percent in your first year after residency or fellowship. Help us stay in the fight. [Renew Today](#).

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## FROM NATIONAL ACEP



### Take Action

**Urge your Representative to help the ED boarding crisis.** Our hospital emergency departments (EDs) have reached or are past the breaking point. Ask your House member to sign a bipartisan congressional “Dear Colleague” letter urging the Administration to swiftly convene an ED Boarding Task Force with broad stakeholder representation. The more legislators that sign onto the request to the Administration, the more likely it is that they will make it a priority! **The letter closes on May 24 so we need your immediate action.** [Click here to take action.](#)

**Urge your legislators to cosponsor two bipartisan bills to address violence in the ED:**

- [The "Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act" \(H.R. 2663/S. 1176\)](#)
- [The "SAVE Act" \(H.R. 2584\)](#)

### ACEP Resources & Latest News

**New Indiana Bill Requires Hospital EDs to Have a Physician On Site.** Indiana recently passed legislation that will require every emergency department in the state to have a physician onsite and responsible for the ED. Thanks to the tireless advocacy of Indiana ACEP, patients who need emergency care across the state of Indiana now have reassurance that a physician will be in the emergency department at all hours to provide high quality patient care. [Read more.](#)

**As the situation with Envision develops, ACEP is focused on you - the emergency physician.** We continue to monitor the transition closely and will ensure our members are empowered in their next steps. If you need help, [view these resources](#).

**How does advocacy affect reimbursement?** Jordan G. R. Celeste, MD, FACEP, ACEP's RUC Advisor, [gives a helpful overview](#) in this regulatory blog post.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the [winners of ACEP's 2023 Leadership & Excellence and Council Awards!](#)

**This week, ACEP's Well-Being Committee and Wellness Section invite you to participate in quick, daily challenges to mark [EM Wellness Week](#).** Today's focus is all about celebrating the small stuff. Intentionally seeking things to celebrate, however small, can increase your sense of wellbeing and life satisfaction.

**It's [EMS Week](#), and you are invited to this educational opportunity focused on EMS and pediatric patients:**

- May 24 at 5 p.m. CT: ["The Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator \(PECC\): Where Emergency Care for Kids Begins"](#) will highlight the role of PECCs, also known as pediatric champions, in EMS agencies.

**Have you checked out the new asthma point-of-care tool? [Asthma Exacerbation in the ED](#),** available on acep.org and the ACEP Mobile app, walks through clinical features, pharmacologic treatments, life-threatening presentations, pediatric and pregnant considerations, discharge planning and more.

**[Join the Climate & Energy MIG](#) to study and implement ways to decrease the carbon impact of our specialty.** This new group has an interest in combating climate change, decreasing the use of single-use plastics in medicine and those who see the connection between climate change and global health.

## Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

**May 21-27:** [EMS Week](#)

**May 21-27:** [EM Wellness Week](#)

**May 25:** [Last day to submit comments on Severe Agitation policy draft](#)

**July 25:** [Last day to apply for the Annals of Emergency Medicine Resident Fellow](#)

**Oct 9-12:** [ACEP23](#) Scientific Assembly, Philadelphia, PA

## Contact Us

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