

MEDIA ADVISORY: May 22, 2011

Office of Emergency Management responds to Joplin tornado

Officials with the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management are responding to the Joplin, Mo. tornado this evening, providing assistance to local emergency responders in the city, located 74 miles from Springfield in Jasper and Newton counties.

Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, and his team responded to a request for assistance from Joplin city officials soon after the tornado struck the city. Nicholls said there were 24 confirmed tornado-related fatalities in Joplin.

Numerous national media outlets have contacted the Greene County Public Information Office this evening seeking tornado information. As clarification, media outlets are advised that Joplin is **not** in Greene County and that Greene County officials are simply providing mutual aid in this disaster. At this time, Greene County has no further information on the Joplin disaster response.

Please contact the City of Joplin for information, and be advised that communications in the area have been limited.

— Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer