



**Shelby County Office of Preparedness**  
**Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Mayor**

**Bob Nations, Jr., Director**  
**Operations Command Center**  
**(901) 515.2525**

**1075 Mullins Station Road, Suite 113, Memphis, Tennessee 38134**  
[www.staysafeshelby.us](http://www.staysafeshelby.us)

**Steve Shular, Public Affairs Officer**  
**Office (901) 222.2047**  
**Cell (901) 359.5117**

**December 6, 2013**

### **Ice Warning Leads to State of Emergency in Shelby County**

Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., has declared a State of Emergency due to icing conditions throughout the county.

**“Personnel from many emergency response and support agencies are working around the clock due to the ice storm. Besides overtime expenses, additional resources could be needed,”** said Mayor Luttrell. Mayor Luttrell’s declaration follows one issued yesterday by Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam.

Ice has closed most schools and businesses throughout Shelby County. Law enforcement officers report an increase in traffic crashes. There have also been scattered power outages.

Temperatures continue to drop. Ice has now formed on roads, power lines and trees. **“Those are critical concerns. However, our emergency operations center is open. We’re tracking issues as they arise to ensure they’re quickly addressed,”** said Bob Nations, Jr., Director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

Citizens need to stay in constant contact with relatives and friends, especially those who are elderly, disabled or live alone. Pets need to be sheltered because of the dangerously cold temperatures.

Shelby County Public Works crews are spreading a mixture of salt and cinders on the streets. Bridges and overpasses are especially slick. Shelby County Office of Preparedness officials urge people not to drive unless absolutely necessary.

#### **Here are some additional winter safety tips:**

- Avoid being outside if possible.
- Dress warmly if you have to leave home
- Keep water lines dripping
- Have plenty of blankets on hand should power go out
- **IMPORTANT**-If using a generator, make sure you vent the exhaust. Never use charcoal indoors due the deadly vapors

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**Office of Preparedness Responds to Ice and Freezing Rain**

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- If you must travel, keep your gas tank full, check the antifreeze level and windshield wipers
- Always have a heavy coat, hat, gloves and walking shoes in case your vehicle gets stranded
- Keep an emergency kit on board with first aid materials, bottles of water and snack foods

See this and more information on Facebook at **HLS/EMA**, Twitter **@SCOP908**, or call **(901) 515-2525**.

**(End of Release)**