Joint Information Center

For Immediate Release

September 2, 2012

State of Louisiana News Desk #:

Louisiana Workforce Commission sends teams to help evacuees at shelters in North Louisiana

Baton Rouge -- The Louisiana Workforce Commission sent teams of unemployment insurance specialists to state evacuation shelters in Alexandria and Shreveport Sunday to help victims of Hurricane Isaac apply for disaster unemployment assistance.

An LWC strike team set up a network of computers at the state Megashelter on Highway 71 in Alexandria and began assisting evacuees apply online for disaster unemployment assistance. The agency also sent a mobile unit, a customized RV fitted with computers and Internet access, to the state evacuation shelter on Jewella Avenue in Shreveport, where LWC employees continue to provide evacuees with the same services and support. As of Sunday morning, there were 1,806 evacuees at the Shreveport shelter and another 1,180 at the Alexandria Megashelter.