

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'

WEEKLY RUNDOWN

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Volume 15 | Number 37 | October 26, 2018

Floridians,

Two weeks ago, Hurricane Michael ripped through the Panhandle as the most powerful storm to hit the United States since Hurricane Andrew. I've been on the ground since the storm passed and I've seen first-hand how it has changed lives and devastated these communities. I can't thank our firefighters, law enforcement officers, task forces, lineworkers, first responders, and local and state officials enough for their hard work during this time.

Day one we had boots on the ground to begin urban search and rescue, with personnel from 12 different states. My Disaster Fraud Action Strike Team has been on the ground raising awareness about post-storm fraud and searching for anyone trying to prey on residents. They are already investigating fraud in Bay, Leon, Gulf, and Washington counties. We also activated emergency Insurance Villages in the impacted counties to assist residents with filing claims.

Verizon suffered widespread outages after Hurricane Michael. I sent a [letter](#) to the Federal Telecommunications Commission Chairman Pai urging them to recommend best practices to reposition equipment and make repairs quickly after a hurricane passes, and put standards in place for carriers to open roaming agreements after a disaster is declared to help expedite response efforts and make it easier for residents to call for help. We have to work on solutions so that no community will have



to endure what the Panhandle has experienced.

While we have a long road ahead of us, we will do everything possible to ensure Floridians are made whole. My office is here to assist in whatever way we can. We are Floridians and we will rebuild and recover.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida

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[State Fire Marshal Jimmy Patronis Joins Urban Search and Rescue Team from Jacksonville](#)

[CFO Patronis Applauds Gov. Scott's Call to Action for Telecommunications Providers in Disaster-Impacted Panhandle](#)

[Scammers, Crooked Contractors are Already Preying on Families After Hurricane Michael](#)

[Fraud Teams Activated, Residents Must Prepare Now for Tropical Storm Michael](#)