



*Jackson-Madison County*  
*Regional Health Department*  
**Emergency Response**

# Triage Lights

The Jackson Madison County Regional Health Department recently purchased 200 Triage Lights from Southwest Synergistic Solutions. As the lead agency for ESF-8 Health and Medical, the Jackson Madison County Regional Health Department plans to use these lights for Mass Casualty events. On February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Jackson, Tennessee, was struck by an EF-4 tornado. A large university was in the direct path of this devastating tornado, and over 50 casualties resulted. It was very difficult trying to keep up with the victims after they were located and triaged by EMS. We searched for a solution to this problem and found the Triage Lights in Homeland Security Today magazine. After receiving the lights, numerous other uses for the lights have been identified. Not only can they be used to identify patients in the field, but they also can be used in the treatment/transport area by EMS and Nursing staff to quickly identify which patients need to go first. Or, in the event a patient's status changes, the light can be changed quickly. The lights can also be used during recovery operations to identify where rescuers are located. The Jackson Madison County Regional Health Department recently conducted a demonstration of our Portable Hospital System in Nashville, Tennessee, and the Triage Lights were deployed with the beds to demonstrate their use. The lights received great reviews. We are proud to add Triage Lights to our response assets for future missions.

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