



Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport Commissary
[AP Photo:](#) Photo provided by the U.S. Navy/Paul Williams

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Paul Davis National Receives Contract for Gulfport Commissary Restoration
-Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport Commissary in MS receives drying and stabilization after damage from Hurricane Katrina-

Jacksonville, FL – Paul Davis National (PDN), the large loss specialists for Paul Davis Restoration, is providing building restoration and stabilization services for the Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport Commissary in Gulfport, MS. According to PDN’s Howdy Russell, Corporate Spokesperson and Director of Marketing, the company is working as a sub-contractor for the United States Navy’s weatherproofing and roofing contractor, Weatherproofing Technologies Inc. (WTI), a division of Tremco Inc.

According to Russell, PDN responded to an emergency call from WTI immediately following the Aug. 29 Hurricane Katrina hit to Gulfport. On Sept. 4, and as soon as contractors could begin work, PDN staff arrived at Gulfport Commissary and began site stabilization. While WTI sealed the roof area, PDN began drying the interior of the 28,000 square foot steel reinforced building, and replacing structural materials for building reinforcement.

“WTI immediately covered the remaining roof with tarps and we began drying procedures. We had to keep the outside waters from coming in and dry the interior of the building at the same time,” said Russell. Limited by forced curfews, the PDN staff works on-site everyday from 8

a.m. until 5 p.m. They utilize available power from diesel generators due to continuing problems with the area's power outages and surges.

“It's been quite a challenge. The building was severely damaged, plus we had to contain and control the microbial growth right away. We're working to establish a healthy and safe environment for the building's ongoing use as a commissary,” he said.

According to PDN's Director of Operations, John “J” Murphy, when a loss like the Gulfport Commissary happens, it is imperative that the situation be brought under control quickly and effectively through emergency response support. “Unfortunately, the loss location is not predictable, and therefore, a response strategy must be managed. There are many times when a situation is critical, and immediate action is needed. This is where PDN has a tremendous advantage,” Murphy said.

“Since PDN partners with all of the Paul Davis Restoration offices through the country, we can call upon the closest offices. In this case, we secured the assistance of offices located throughout the country. As soon as our PDN representative reviewed the scene, we made an overall assessment and incorporated the immediate as well as long-term needs into an organized plan of action for all to approve,” he said.

Murphy says documentation is the product PDN delivers to ensure efficient cost containment. PDN's primary objective is to operate all loss sites efficiently by establishing, in writing, its proposed tactics and techniques in advance of implementation.

“Prior to implementing our proposed plan of action to stabilize and restore the commissary, all parties were aware of the proposed actions and pricing methodology. In this case, time was critical and we had to establish pre-approved billing rates for work necessary to alleviate the problems. Having a pre-approved billing rate allowed all parties to make more effective and efficient decisions and to make sure the resources are in place to meet the demands of the situation,” he said.

PDN plans to dry the Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport Commissary building and stabilize the environment within 30 to 45 days. Russell expects the building will be ready for move-in and will be open for business by mid to late October.

For more information, contact Howdy Russell at PDN, 904.233.5245 or email hrussell@pdnational.com. Visit our website at www.pdnational.com

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The Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport Commissary functions as a support for operating units of the Naval Construction Force. It also supports various Naval Mobile Construction battalions, the Naval Construction Training Center and other smaller tenant activities.

PDN provides high quality project services and is staffed with the most experienced emergency, mitigation, restoration, and reconstruction talent in the industry. In addition to its vast internal resources, more than 210 individual Paul Davis Restoration franchise offices located throughout the country are providing services to PDN.