On September 1, 2010, in preparation for Hurricane Earl, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) activated and forward deployed FEMA US&R task forces. In order to support this deployment, FEMA activated an Incident Support Team (IST) and requested that TX-TF1 personnel assist with staffing. Two members of TX-TF1 were requested by FEMA to forward deploy with the IST which was staged in Boston, MA.

TX-TF1 provides personnel to staff the FEMA US&R IST for deployments throughout the United States upon activation by FEMA. Supporting the mobilization and deployment of the FEMA IST provides task force personnel an opportunity to train and practice command and planning functions at large scale incidents and improves the State’s capability for disaster response and mitigation. The multi-disciplinary FEMA US&R task forces afford search, rescue, medical, and technical capabilities, and a wide variety of services for catastrophic events.

In addition to supporting personnel to staff the IST, TX-TF1 also maintains one of three FEMA US&R IST equipment cache trailers for deployment throughout the United States upon activation by FEMA. The mobilization and use of FEMA IST cache provides a significant capability for disaster response and mitigation. The multi-disciplinary FEMA US&R task forces afford search, rescue, medical, and technical capabilities, and a wide variety of services for catastrophic events. The IST cache maintained by TX-TF1 was mobilized and en route to Memphis, TN at 3:00 pm on September 1st and arrived in Memphis at 3:00 am on the morning of September 2nd.

Hurricane Earl developed into a strong hurricane which took an unusual northeast track towards the Atlantic and did not pose a threat the continental United States. As a result, on September 5, IST personnel and task forces received demobilization orders from FEMA.

**Deployment Statistics**
- **Incident involved 4 personnel deployed for 5 days**
  - Deployed FEMA Incident Support Team equipment cache
  - 1 Eighteen-wheel cargo truck
  - 1 Deputy Logistics Chief
  - 1 Deputy Communication Unit Leader
  - 2 IST cache support personnel and truck drivers
  - ESF-9 Coordination Center in College Station was activated for this deployment