

DOWNLOAD PDF REPORT ON INVESTIGATION OF HURRICANE DAMAGE TO GI HOMES IN MIAMI.

Chapter 1 : Structural Engineers

Investigation of the Failures of Three Hammerhead Cranes on September 10, , in Miami and Fort Lauderdale in the Wake of Hurricane Irma 2 Report.

The Orange County Emergency Operations Center said early Monday that the fire department and the National Guard are going door-to-door using boats to ferry families to safety. A few kilometres away, 30 others had to be evacuated when an 18m sinkhole opened up under an apartment building. No injuries were reported in that incident. Hurricane Irma is getting weaker as it moves over the western Florida peninsula after hitting the state Sunday as a Category 4 storm. Irma has weakened to a Category 1 storm but authorities are warning those in its path not to be complacent. The massive hurricane zeroed in on the Tampa Bay region early Monday local time after hammering much of Florida with roof-ripping winds, gushing floodwaters and widespread power outages. The hurricane has left at least three dead in Florida, 10 in Cuba and 24 in other parts of the Caribbean. With communication cut to some of the Florida Keys, where Irma made landfall Sunday, and rough conditions persisting across the peninsula, many are holding their breath for what daylight might reveal. AFP The World Bank study ranked Tampa as the seventh most vulnerable city in the world according to the projected overall cost of damage. It was also less of a focus for preparations as the main brunt of Irma was expected to be felt elsewhere in the state. Forecasts warn Irma will remain a powerful storm as it flooded Miami streets and knocked out power to more than four million homes and businesses. A storm surge warning was issued for much of the Florida Peninsula and extended into southern Carolina. Two men walk their bicycle along a flooded street on the waterfront of Fort Lauderdale. Nine people were caught by police after a local news station WPLG recorded the group ransacking a vacant sportswear store. Men and women are shown in the video allegedly moving in and out of a broken window, as winds buffet an otherwise empty street and parking lot. AP A stranded manatee in Manatee County. It was stranded after waters receded from the Florida bay as Hurricane Irma approached. Several people posted photos of the mammals, hoping rescue workers or wildlife officials would respond. Michael Sechler posted that the animals were far too massive to be lifted, so they gave them water. Marcelo Clavijo posted that a group of people eventually loaded the manatees onto tarps and dragged them to deeper water. The surge is starting to recede as the wind shifts. He captioned the video: The howling winds and sound of the rain are incredibly loud. A vehicle drives on flooded Brickell Avenue in Miami. The water is starting to rise. So we evacuated to the building where the cafe is. We thought about going further north but to move with eight people a dog and a cat is not so easy last minute so we decided to stay put. Facebook Irma had been one of the most powerful hurricanes ever seen in the Atlantic, killing dozens in the Caribbean and pummeling Cuba with 11m waves on Sunday. Its arrival in the US forced one of the largest evacuations in American history. The powerful hurricane made landfall in the United States in the Florida Keys at 9: The powerful made landfall in the United States in the Florida Keys at 9: It has already made landfall on nearby Marco Island as a Category 3 hurricane. At that rate, the centre of the storm should come ashore sometime between 4 and 5pm local time. A storm surge of 2. If a big one scores a direct hit, the damage would likely surpass Katrina. Largo resident William Zhang told news. All the businesses in the area are closed, half since yesterday and all the gas stations have been out of gasoline for a couple of days. He said judging from the number of cars parked in his area, only a quarter of the residents of the surrounding buildings have fled. The power is already fluctuating but he said the real concerns will be when the power and water is cut off. A couple walks down Bayshore Boulevard in Tampa. Buckhorn has announced a 6pm mandatory curfew. The water is normally about 1m to 1. Waves crash over a seawall at the mouth of the Miami River in Miami. A crane atop a high-rise under construction in downtown Miami collapsed. Waves poured over a Miami seawall, flooding streets a couple of blocks from the waterfront through the financial district and past consulates, leaving high rise apartment buildings standing like islands in the flood. Another man was killed after winds caused him to lose control of the truck he was driving through Monroe County,

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which contains Key West. He had been carrying a generator, local officials told ABC News. The warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected within the next 36 hours. AP trending in technology.

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Chapter 2 : Gov. Scott, Sen. Nelson Tour Hurricane Damage In Panhandle Â« CBS Miami

Hurricane Irma left a trail of damage across South Florida: flooded streets, downed trees, crushed cars, collapsed cranes, leaky homes. The long slog of assessing the damage across the region.

Hurricane Andrew 25 years later: The monster storm that devastated South Miami Sunday, Irma is showing her strength now. Very strong gusts of wind. The streets are flooded up to the newspaper stands. You have a broken window at the JW Marriott with the curtains flying out of it. There is small pieces of debris flying through the air. On Sunday in Miami, winds whipped around high-rise buildings at speeds approaching mph, the National Weather Service said. A 94 mph wind gust was recorded at Miami International Airport. The powerful winds are shaking glass window panes, Mann said. The wind has really picked up. The pressure is forcing water in through the balcony doors and they are rattling every so often with the bigger gusts. It is still very flooded outside Sunday 2pm in Miami credit Zak Mann pic. My floor-to-ceiling windows made a few creaking sounds and one did leak a little but no major damage. No loss of power. Reflecting on what it was like being in Miami during the worst portion of the weather today, Mann thought back to one of the worst storms that Florida has ever experienced. We were lucky to dodge the direct path of the storm. Had it been a direct hit to Miami we would have much more damage. Mann said it looks like people are assessing the damage and getting back to their normal routines; he said he saw more cars on the road today than he had seen in several days. The waters have receded and it looks like Brickell should be back up and running pretty soon. My calculated decision to stay paid off -- our power stayed on the entire time and we were able to keep in touch with our families and friends. Miami has a lot of work to do to make the city safe and restore basic services.

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Chapter 3 : Here's a Summary of Hurricane Irma Damage in Miami | Miami New Times

Homes built according to the newer building codes fared much better during Irma and Hurricane Investigations. accounting for an unknown amount of damage, because there are so many homes.

Many of those structures did not withstand the fury of Hurricane Michael, which slammed into the area last week with winds of up to mph, leaving acres of flattened houses and other buildings in its wake before roaring across the Georgia border inland. There was this whole notion that the trees were going to help us, take the wind out of the storm. Those trees become projectiles and flying objects. The acres of flattened homes showed how contractors cut corners amid the patchwork of codes Florida had at the time. For example, flimsy particle board was used under roofs instead of sturdier plywood, and staples were used instead of roofing nails. They even took some windows out and replaced them with concrete, thus limiting their beach view. We took it off. I wanted more overhang. Lackey and King say all of the utilities have to be redone, and noted there is some water damage. Tom Lee, a homebuilder and legislator, says past hurricanes have shown time and time again that the stricter codes help. He said after such previous storms, he could see during flyovers which homes were built before the new code. The codes call for shatterproof windows, fortified roofs and reinforced concrete pillars, among other specifications. Hurricane Michael pummeled the region with devastating winds from the sea all the way into Georgia, destroying buildings more than 70 miles from the shoreline. Rick Scott said it may be time for Florida to boost its standards “considered the toughest in the nation” even further. The small seaside community had a lot of older mobile homes and low-income year-round residents working in the commercial fishing and service industries. Prevatt was preparing to lead a team to assess the damage. He said engineers will be asking how old the destroyed and damaged buildings were and under what version of the Florida building codes they were built. They also will be looking at the differences between the structures that survived and those that did not. Copyright The Associated Press. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

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Chapter 4 : Hurricane and Homeowner Insurance Claims | Miami Insurance Lawyer

Property damage from Hurricane Irma is now estimated to reach \$ billion to \$60 billion, with up to \$30 billion for flooded homes not covered by insurance.

Still, the scope of damage in Florida and neighboring states paled in comparison with the utter devastation left by Irma as a rare Category 5 hurricane in parts of the Caribbean, where the storm killed nearly 40 people - at least 10 of them in Cuba - before turning its fury on Florida. Six deaths in the state have been blamed on Irma, along with three in Georgia and one in South Carolina. At least 35 people were killed in the Caribbean. The White House warned it could take weeks before electricity is fully restored. Boats lay partly submerged and petrol stations had roofs blown off. Several deaths were reported in traffic accidents. Returning residents consoled each other as some found their houses damaged and lawns turned into lakes. While Irma was hitting Miami a mother and four-month-old baby were rescued from their flooded home by police in a military vehicle. A police spokesman said: They were found in waist-high water standing there in a panic. Nearly seven million people had been ordered to evacuate before Irma and rescuers went door-to-door looking for many who had stayed behind, especially in the battered Florida Keys. Scenes there included water at hip height in a square, five pleasure boats hurled onto a road, and a surfboard hanging in the trees. Huge numbers of properties in Naples, Florida, are under water Credit: The storm sounded like war. It sounded like explosives. On the mainland the hurricane initially sucked water away from beaches. In Sarasota two manatees were left high and dry before residents dragged them back toward the water. Rescuer Michael Sechler said: Joe Kiener, who rode out the storm in a hotel in Miami, said: Hurricane Irma leaves path of destruction in Caribbean as it hits Florida, in pictures Speaking at a ceremony at the Pentagon to remember victims of the September 11, terror attacks, Mr Trump said: On Monday afternoon, it was about miles north-northwest of Tampa and was moving at around 18 mph. Stay with us for the latest updates throughout the day. The storm, located about 5 miles 10 kilometers west of Columbus, Georgia, is still bringing heavy rain to the U. Southeast on Monday night. Irma is expected to drop 2 to 5 inches of rain across South Carolina and northern portions of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. Tropical Depression Irma Advisory Irma Weakens to a Tropical Depression. The hurricane center has discontinued all storm surge and tropical storm warnings. Rather than a category four storm smashing up the east coast, it had to contend with feeder bands of much lesser force. Today things have been getting back to normal. For people like Craig and Debbie Mayor the main problem now is power. Their fortified house - with sturdy storm windows and shutters - came through unscathed, but they have had no mains electricity since Sunday morning. Their hurricane routine, however, runs like clockwork. On Monday night they clubbed together with neighbours for a supper of burgers cooked on the grill and salad. They survived like this for for six weeks in after Hurricane Wilma, each neighbour cooking up whatever off their food was about to spoil. Neighbours cook burgers on the grill as they make do without electricity 1: Winter Park police spokesman Garvin McComie says officers responded Monday morning following reports of a man lying in the roadway. The officers determined that year-old Brian Buwalda was dead at the scene. A medical examiner will determine an official cause of death, but McComie says it appears to be an accident. Winter Park is in Orange County, just of Orlando. The storm has been blamed for more than 40 deaths, including six in Florida. The US estimates that 2, to 3, US citizens still need to leave the affected areas. US amphibious assault ships have also been assisting residents of the US Virgin Islands, where four people were killed by the storm. The French defence ministry also announced that a military ship, set to leave France on Tuesday, would carry an additional four helicopters and 1, tonnes of supplies, and be used as a "floating hospital". Rubble from collapsed buildings in St Martin Credit: AFP The Dutch defence ministry had stationed two naval vessels in the area before the storm, carrying a helicopter and supplies. So far four military flights loaded with troops and aid - including food, water, medicines and medical equipment - have been sent. The flights have carried medical supplies, emergency shelter kits, rations and clean water to affected islands,

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as well as engineers and military personnel. Johana Soudiagom said she was among a tiny handful of non-whites evacuated by boat to nearby Guadeloupe after Irma devastated the island. Excuse me, but we saw only mainlanders," she told a Guadeloupe television station. There are only whites on the boat.

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Chapter 5 : Hurricane Irma | Hurricane Irma Property Damage

On September 10th, , Hurricane Irma swept across South Florida, causing extensive damage to homes and businesses, especially those near the ocean and large bodies of water.

New List of the Costliest U. Some rather infamous hurricanes were bumped out of the top 10 because of the big three of Hurricane Central The revised list of costliest U. A home is surrounded by floodwater after torrential rains pounded southeast Texas following Hurricane and Tropical Storm Harvey on August 31, near Sugar Land, Texas. Hurricane Ivan remains the only hurricane from the infamous hurricane season clinging to the top 10 list. Bush flies over what was once a beach community in Cameron, Louisiana, on Sept. Significant wind damage, storm surge flooding and inland flooding occurred in portions of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. While Rita did take a turn to the east, sparing metro Houston and Galveston, southwest Louisiana and the Beaumont-Port Arthur areas took a direct hit. According to the National Hurricane Center report, Wilma caused the largest disruption to electrical service ever experienced in Florida, at the time. Ivan produced a significant amount of wind and storm surge damage along the Florida Panhandle and Alabama coasts. From there, Ivan went on to produce wind and flood damage well inland from Georgia all the way to Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. Another legacy of Ivan was the large amount of tornadoes it spawned. The final total of is a record for the most tornadoes produced by any tropical storm or hurricane in U. Ike was a very large hurricane that generated a huge storm surge along portions of the Texas and Louisiana coasts. Homes were completely wiped off their foundations on the Bolivar Peninsula, southeast of Houston. After striking southern Florida, Andrew made a second landfall in south-central Louisiana as a Category 3 hurricane. The intense winds caused catastrophic damage in southern Florida, destroying or damaging approximately , homes. At the time, Andrew was the most costly natural disaster in U. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has reported that percent of all homes in the Florida Keys were destroyed and percent sustained major damage when they took a direct hit from Hurricane Irma. Wind gusts caused widespread damage across peninsular and northern Florida and into parts of central and southern Georgia. Irma Recap Most Unforgettable Moments 4. Natalie Keyssar Similar to Hurricane Ike in , Sandy was another very large hurricane with an expansive wind field. The large wind field of Sandy sent a destructive storm surge into parts of coastal New Jersey and New York. In addition, 41 of the 72 direct deaths associated with Sandy in the U. Some were without power for weeks. A Meteorological Memoir Infographic: Over 15 families were isolated by this landslide. Virgin Island of St. Croix, Hurricane Maria became the strongest hurricane to landfall in Puerto Rico since when it roared into the U. Power was knocked out to over 90 percent of the island immediately following Maria, and, as of late January , just under 70 percent of customers had electricity restored. Storm surge and powerful wind gusts resulted in widespread destruction near its landfall location. After landfall, Harvey then stalled over South Texas and then meandered east back into the Gulf of Mexico before making a final landfall near Cameron, Louisiana, on Aug. This exceedingly slow movement is what led to record-shattering rainfall and catastrophic flooding in southeastern Texas. The top rainfall total was an incredible The areal coverage of the excessive rainfall was also impressive. Locations picking up at least 20 inches of rainfall reached an area larger than the state of West Virginia, while the inch-plus zone covered an area bigger than Delaware. While Harvey was the deadliest Texas hurricane in 98 years , none of the 68 deaths directly attributed to Harvey were due to storm surge, a first for a U. Phillip, File In addition to being the most costly hurricane in history, Katrina is also the most expensive natural disaster in U. Katrina first made landfall in south Florida as a Category 1 hurricane near Miami. Strong winds gusting between 85 and 95 mph plus heavy rains caused substantial damage and flooding. Even though Katrina had weakened to a Category 3 before landfall along the northern Gulf Coast, its large size and previous extreme intensity sent a huge storm surge into the Mississippi, Alabama and southeast Louisiana coasts. The surge left behind catastrophic destruction along the coast of Mississippi and stressed the levees protecting New Orleans, causing them to fail.

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This resulted in an inundation of 80 percent of New Orleans with water depths up to 20 feet. Farther inland, high winds and some flooding affected portions of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and Georgia. This story does not necessarily represent the position of our parent company, IBM.

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Chapter 6 : Sun Sentinel - We are currently unavailable in your region

Video from a drone revealed some of the worst damage in Mexico Beach, where the hurricane crashed ashore Wednesday as a Category 4 monster with mph winds and a storm surge of 9 feet.

This page contains important information in the event you need to file a Hurricane Irma insurance claim, or any other homeowner insurance claim in Florida. If you need to make a Hurricane Irma insurance claim in Florida, or need help with a homeowner claim, contact our Florida homeowner insurance claim lawyers now to find out what compensation you may be entitled to at As a Florida insurance attorney who has handled more than 5, insurance claims in Florida, our insurance lawyers are here to assist with your Hurricane Irma claim or any other homeowner insurance claim throughout Florida. We are on call and open late and weekends to assist with your Hurricane Irma claim or homeowner insurance claim. Under Florida insurance law, your homeowner insurance policy must generally cover windstorm damage. Your deductible may be much higher than a non-hurricane related claim, but you still may be covered. Subject to a few exceptions, Florida Statute Before the storm -Take photographs or video of the outside and inside of your house, and any possessions you have inside the house. This could help prove your damages in the event of a hurricane claim. This way you have the information handy in the event of a loss. After the storm -If you have damage, report your insurance claim as soon as possible to your insurance company. Claims may be processed on a first in, first out basis. This can help you in the event you later find damage in the walls or attic after the initial homeowner claim, or other hidden damage that comes out later. Hurricane Windstorm Coverage Florida law requires all residential property insurance policies to include hurricane windstorm coverage Fla. The term includes ensuing damage to the interior of a building, or to property inside a building, caused by rain, snow, sleet, hail, sand, or dust if the direct force of the windstorm first damages the building, causing an opening through which rain, snow, sleet, hail, sand, or dust enters and causes damage. The duration of the hurricane includes the time period, in Florida: Beginning at the time a hurricane watch or hurricane warning is issued for any part of Florida by the National Hurricane Center of the National Weather Service; 2. Continuing for the time period during which the hurricane conditions exist anywhere in Florida; and 3. Ending 72 hours following the termination of the last hurricane watch or hurricane warning issued for any part of Florida by the National Hurricane Center of the National Weather Service. Your homeowner policy may entitle you to compensation for many different things. Some of the types of claims you may be allowed to make under a homeowner policy could include: Structural Damage â€” This may include damage to the physical structure of your residence, both outside and inside. Roof tiles or shingles may be replaced under this policy provision. Exterior Damage â€” This may include damage to your landscaping, fence, playground, or pool. Damage to Personal Property â€” Any damage to your personal property may be covered for replacement, like furniture, appliances, clothing, and kitchen items. Hotel Reimbursement â€” Costs for you to stay outside of your home during the storm and during repairs may be covered. Loss of Food â€” Any perishables which went bad as a result of the storm and power loss may be covered. Cleaning â€” Any costs to clean your residence following hurricane damage may be covered. Alternative Living Arrangements â€” If you cannot stay in your home following damage, you may be entitled to reimbursement for your alternative living arrangements. Vehicle Damage â€” Damage to your vehicle is generally covered under comprehensive coverage, but damage to any of your personal property or possessions within the vehicle may be covered by your homeowner insurance. Pool Damage â€” Damage to your pool equipment or lining may be covered to get it repaired. Other Structures On Your Property â€” Other structures, like a shed or barn, may be covered for damage. Diminished Value â€” You may be entitled to the diminished value of property caused by a loss. Contact our firm now or call Property Damage Claim Procedures For Hurricane Claims If you make a hurricane or homeowner claim in Florida, there are several laws which may apply to help process your claim. If your claim is not paid within 90 days of making the initial notice of claim, feel free to contact our Florida hurricane attorneys to see if we can help get the

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insurance company to pay the claim. You may also be entitled to interest on your claim. Under Florida law, interest generally begins to accrue from the date the insurer receives notice of the claim. This means that even if the claim takes more than 90 days to process, you may be entitled to interest on the settlement from the date of the initial claim. Three Year Limit To Make A Hurricane Irma Claim Florida law provides that you must put your hurricane insurance company on notice of your claim within 3 years from when the hurricane first made landfall. This also includes a supplemental claim and reopened claim. Specifically, Florida Statute This section does not affect any applicable limitation on civil actions provided in s. You Can Choose Your Own Contractor You have a right to choose your own contractor to perform homeowner repairs following a hurricane or other homeowner damage loss. Many insurance companies have contracts with recommended contractors, however they do not own them and are not liable for issues with the contractor. Florida law says that an insurer who offers residential coverage is allowed to contract with a building contractor skilled in techniques that mitigate hurricane damage. Insurers may offer policyholders the option to select the services of such building contractors to repair damage covered by the insurance policy. However, the insurance company is not liable for the actions of the building contractor. Prior to adjudication of insolvency and arising within 30 days after the determination of insolvency; b. Before the policy expiration date if less than 30 days after the determination; or c. Before the insured replaces the policy or causes its cancellation, if she or he does so within 30 days of the determination. If your insurance company goes bankrupt or is taken over by FIGA, our hurricane insurance attorneys have handled many claims against FIGA over the years. We can help continue to fight to get you the insurance settlement you deserve. It often depends on what the cause of the damage to your home is. Most claims will fall under the windstorm policy, or homeowner insurance policy. However, flood damage is possible following a hurricane. Overflow of inland or tidal waters; 2. Unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source; 3. Collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or similar body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels that result in a flood as defined in this paragraph. That means that the damage generally must be caused by one of the four categories above in order to fall within your flood insurance policy in Florida. If water was caused by a pipe burst after the home was struck by wind or debris from a hurricane, for example, the claim would generally fall under the homeowner policy and not the flood policy, as the damage was caused by wind damage, not a rise in water or similar effect. Replacement Cost Value Of Claims You must look at your policy to see whether you are entitled to replacement coverage. If you are, then you may be protected by Florida Statute The insured may not be required to pay for betterment required by ordinance or code except for the applicable deductible, unless specifically excluded or limited by the policy. In determining the extent of the repairs or replacement of items in adjoining areas, the insurer may consider the cost of repairing or replacing the undamaged portions of the property, the degree of uniformity that can be achieved without such cost, the remaining useful life of the undamaged portion, and other relevant factors. If you have any damage from Hurricane Irma in Florida or any other homeowner claim, contact an insurance lawyer at the Law Offices of Jason Turchin today for a free consultation. We are available to help with your homeowner insurance claim after hours, and are on call to help answer your questions. Call us at or

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Chapter 7 : WSJ: Investigation into FEMA chief referred to prosecutors

Hurricane In tiny Florida fishing village, hurricane took a home, a neighbor and a way of life Clint Moore, the year-old owner of St. Joe Shrimp Company, lost his family-owned business, his.

October 10 At a Glance Hurricane Michael carved swaths of devastation as it made landfall on the Florida Panhandle. One death has been reported in Gadsden County. More than , homes and businesses lost power in Florida. More than , people along the Gulf Coast in 22 counties were ordered or urged to evacuate. More than 50 miles inland, the hurricane continued to cause major damage. One death has been reported in the Panhandle. From Panama City, through Mexico Beach where the storm made landfall and into Apalachicola, houses were swamped or blown apart, roofs were ripped off, boats sank, and trees toppled in the high winds. A wind gust of mph was measured at the base. No injuries were reported. Base personnel had been ordered to evacuate on Monday. The Facebook post said evacuees should plan on being away for an extended time. The damage extended far inland as well. The police department lost its roof, too. Michael arrived in the city with gusts up to mph. EDT, more than , homes and businesses were without power statewide, most of which were in the areas impacted by the storm , according to PowerOutage. The total number of customers without power in Florida, Alabama, and Georgia topped , Storm surge lapped at roof eaves. Patricia Mulligan was in a condo on Mexico Beach when Michael slammed into the town. Several storm trackers tweeted that they were shocked by the devastation. Some buildings completely swept clean - only slabs. The whole city looks like a nuke was dropped on it. Drone video showed the roof peeled back from the gymnasium at Jinks Middle School. There was a lot of noise. We thought the windows were going to break at any time. We had the inside windows kind of barricaded in with mattresses," Beu said. Four pine trees had crashed through the roof of her apartment, nearly hitting two people. The walls collapsed at the Pawaday Inn, a pet grooming and boarding business in Panama City. A Miami Herald reporter tweeted that the dogs survived, but a cat drowned after being trapped. The station lost power a few hours later. The Panama City News Herald lost power and stayed in operation using a backup generator, but did not have internet access at the office, the Associated Press reported. Joe, about 12 miles southeast of Mexico Beach, a church lost its steeple and much of its roof, parts of buildings were torn away , and pine trees snapped like matchsticks. We have trees being uprooted, heavy, heavy rain. Sally Crown, who rode out the storm in her house, ventured out after the storm had passed. Catastrophic," Crown told AP. Boats on the highway. A house on the highway. Houses that have been there forever are just shattered. The winds were dying down and crews were beginning to access the damage. Before Michael Made Landfall Hours before landfall, reports of damage and flooding were relayed from the coast. Residents who refused to evacuate were cut off when bridges were closed, including along St. George Island, where some called for help Wednesday morning but were told crews would not be able to reach them, a National Weather Service storm report said. Wednesday morning, Florida Gov. Rick Scott shared dire advice: Smith told the AP. All airports along the Florida Panhandle closed throughout the storm, and flights were canceled. Tallahassee International Airport tweeted late Wednesday that the airfield had reopened but priority was being given to relief flights. Commercial flights were set to resume midday Thursday, the airport said. Waves from the Choctawhatchee Bay pound the seawall on Wednesday, Oct. Rescue teams and utility trucks descended on the region by the hundreds from all over the country as they prepared to help with the aftermath. The Latest from the Carolinas Evacuation orders were expanded for additional areas in the path of the storm on Tuesday. Mandatory evacuations were ordered for Okaloosa Island and Holiday Isle Tuesday afternoon, and voluntary evacuations were in place for residents in flood-prone areas of Pasco County. All bridges leading to and from coastal islands were closed Wednesday morning. FSU opened the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center as a shelter for students and faculty. Leon County Schools posted a tweet Monday saying all schools would be closed through the rest of the week. Information from the Associated Press was included in this report. This story does not necessarily represent the position of our

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parent company, IBM.

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Chapter 8 : Hurricane Irma damage: Deaths as Tampa, Miami, Florida hit by storm surges, tornadoes

A home with severe roof damage after the full effects of Hurricane Irma struck in Miami Credit: ERIK S. LESSER/EPA A fallen tree after the passage of Hurricane Irma, in Miami Credit: ALVARO BLANCO/EPA.

Follow Hurricane Michael updates below: Death toll rises to 16 There were at least 16 deaths related to Hurricane Michael as of Friday evening. Cathey has lived in Mexico Beach for 65 years. Now, he barely recognizes his hometown. Crews are slowly starting to pick up the pieces. During a tour with the mayor, he had to borrow a satellite phone from CBS News to make a call to a local hardware store to get supplies. But with heavy damage to the main power lines, he said residents will not have basic needs for a long time. He estimates it could be two months before power is restored. Measurements posted by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on its red tide website showed high concentrations off some Pinellas County, Florida, beaches on Thursday. Residents were hoping the hurricane would have the opposite effect and blow it farther offshore. It has killed massive amounts of marine life and caused respiratory irritations in people. Nearly rescued in Florida Florida emergency officials say they have rescued nearly people and checked 25, structures since Hurricane Michael battered the state this week. Authorities said they had wrapped up their initial rapid searches and had begun more-intense searches including inspecting collapsed buildings. But one family got the news they needed thanks to the power of television. She said she lived her whole life in Michigan but headed south after a heart attack and decades of harsh winters. She showed Glor the extensive damage to her home after the hurricane. She also said she was unable to contact relatives back in Michigan to let them know she was OK. I could barely hold it together but it was so difficult to stop crying long enough to hear my mother talk and to know that she was OK. The only way to reach some people stranded by the storm was from the air. So far, crews have rescued 34 and assisted more than others. After Michael cut a destructive path through Panama City, hundreds of utility crews responded, ready to restore power. Disney said the money will be funneled through the Florida Disaster Fund and that contributions from employees to eligible relief groups will be matched dollar-for-dollar through a matching gifts program. Disney has a 70, person workforce in Florida at its Walt Disney World theme park resort in the Orlando area. Updated power outage numbers There were , power outages across six states as of 5: The agency bases its estimates on daily reports from operators. The bureau says workers remained evacuated from only nine of the staffed platforms in the Gulf, and that all unmoored rigs that were moved as the storm approached have returned to their drilling spots. Office of Florida Gov. Rick Scott Florida Gov. Scott and first lady Ann Scott had dinner on Thursday with 50 troopers and 35 of them slept on cots inside the mansion prior to their deployment. Trump said in a Friday afternoon tweet. A long-time employee returned to see the damage. Florida shelves plans for mobile morgue Buildings that were damaged and destroyed by Hurricane Michael are seen in a photograph taken on a U. Authorities have gotten thousands of calls asking about missing persons in the region, but so far no reports of widespread deaths. Rick Scott said state officials still "do not know enough" about the fate of people who remained in the region to ride out the storm. State officials said the high volume of phone calls from outside the disaster area could be due to the fact that vast swaths of the Panhandle remain without cellphone service. The accident raised the total death toll from the storm to Thursday in Marion, located in a mountainous area. State emergency management spokesman Keith Acree said a year-old woman was pronounced dead at the scene. A man died after being airlifted to a hospital. His age was not immediately released. Authorities said the death toll in the state now stands at three. Roy Cooper said in a statement. Strong riptides at the beach North Carolina Gov. Hundreds of roads were closed across the state, many of them blocked by trees, Cooper said. Some roads were washed out. Cooper urged motorists not to drive around barricades. Virginia firefighter killed by truck in storm Lt. Virginia State Police A Virginia firefighter died while responding to a crash north of Richmond as Michael lashed the state. Brad Clark died when a tractor-trailer struck his fire engine at the scene of a two-vehicle crash around 9 p. The department said that the fire engine had its lights and other

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emergency equipment activated but roads were slick and storm conditions were heavy. The truck driver had to be extricated and also suffered serious injuries. Mexico Beach , which officials have called "ground zero" for hurricane damage, and Panama City are in Bay County. Tyndall Air Force Base , which the Air Force has said was severely damaged in the storm, is also in the county. Homes and businesses were ripped from their foundations, trailers were split open and tossed aside like toys, and a coastline was carved up by relentless, surging waves. Just up the coast, officials called Mexico Beach "ground zero" for hurricane damage. The destruction is catastrophic, and it stretches for miles in every direction. Rescue teams with dogs searched what was left of Mexico Beach on Thursday, combing through piles of debris stacked 20 feet high. Many were still unaccounted for on Friday morning. Michael out to sea but some effects still being felt One-time Category 4 Hurricane Michael was a post-tropical cyclone moving across the Atlantic early Friday, the National Hurricane Center said. But people in the Florida Panhandle were only beginning to deal with the destruction in its wake. It was still packing 65 mph maximum sustained winds. The hurricane center forecast that, "The center of Michael will move away from the United States today and move rapidly across the open Atlantic Ocean tonight through Sunday. Some additional strengthening is expected today and tonight as the post-tropical cyclone moves across the Atlantic. Four other deaths are being attributed to Michael in Virginia. In addition, authorities say 4 people died from storm-related incidents in Florida and one each in North Carolina and Georgia. The person who died in Georgia was an year-old girl. Some Floridians return to find homes destroyed Deirdre Hawthorne and her family rode out the storm with more than other people in a shelter, CBS News correspondent Nikki Battiste reports. On her way home, she said she was filled with "dread. CBS News was with her when she saw her house for the first time. Somehow it was still standing beneath a twisted knot of fallen trees. Her daughter Amanda had to find another way into the house. Amanda said she was "devastated, scared, happy. But not everyone was so lucky. A helicopter dropped water and food at the facility on Thursday after a tree downed during the storm caused a water line to break. Landlines and cellphones are also down at the hospital, which has nearly 1, residents and more than staff. Staff are using emergency radios to stay in contact with first responders. Many roads in and around the facility are blocked, but 50 staff from two other state mental health facilities are being brought in to assist. Patients at the facility have been committed involuntarily either through civil or criminal cases. Michael by the numbers Hurricane history: Estimated peak storm surge of 9 feet and 14 feet from Mexico Beach east through Apalachee Bay, according to the National Hurricane Center. Roughly , people in Florida were warned to evacuate; many refused, including people in Mexico Beach where Michael made landfall. Nearly 6, people took refuge in 54 shelters in Florida. Roughly 1 million customers in Georgia, Florida, Alabama and South Carolina were without power at one point. At least six people have been confirmed dead. An year-old girl in Seminole County, Georgia, was killed when a carport blew through the roof of her home. Rick Scott asks for debate delay in Senate race Florida Gov. Rick Scott asked to delay a debate with Sen. Bill Nelson for two weeks so he can focus on response-and-recovery efforts following Hurricane Michael. Scott, a Republican, issued a statement Thursday asking CNN to postpone the debate with the Democratic incumbent, which was originally scheduled for this coming Tuesday. He said, "We appreciate CNN understanding the dire situation in North Florida," and added that Scott "will have no time for campaigning in the next few weeks as he focuses exclusively on recovery efforts for the foreseeable future. The video shows collapsed roofing and walls, scattered debris and mangled building materials. FEMA Administrator Brock Long said it could take months, or even years, for some of the hardest-hit areas to recover from the storm. Water rescues carried out in North Carolina Bands of rain from Hurricane Michael lashed the western part of North Carolina, causing some water rescues and a landslide that closed a road. Roy Cooper urged all residents to be on alert as the storm blows through the state. Cooper said officials were monitoring several rivers for potential flooding in the central, eastern and western parts of the state, though not the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Florence last month. Brissie said about 20 people were pulled out of neighborhoods inundated by flash flooding. McDowell County emergency services director Adrienne Jones said a landslide closed a road and a swift-water rescue crew

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pulled a man to safety in Buncombe County. In Asheville, two people in a hammock who found themselves surrounded by floodwaters were pulled onto an inflatable boat. Florida Secretary of State Ken Detzner told local election supervisors that if their offices were closed Tuesday due to the hurricane, then they could accept paper applications for a single day once their offices reopen.

Chapter 9 : Irma Diary: Residents evaluate Miami's damage after Irma - ABC News

Hurricane Irma did more than decimate the Florida Keys. As Politico reporter Marc Caputo pointed out earlier this week, to "decimate" actually means to destroy every tenth person or thing, and.