

[Slow as molasses in January? MS residents deserve insurance fairness](#)

After Hurricane Katrina decimated communities in his home state of Mississippi, concerned citizen Kevin Buckel was outraged to learn that the average insurance payout to the victims was only \$15,000 – far below what people needed to repair, rebuild and recover. He looked around at the empty lots and lingering debris, teamed up with UP and worked for years to [pressure lawmakers in his home state](#) to more [aggressively require insurers to treat claimants fairly](#). (See also: [Storm of Money: Small insurance reform groups along U.S. coast take on industry Goliaths](#).)

UP in coordination with [Merlin Law Group](#), fought for case law that would help MS consumers get the full insurance benefits they pay for. [UP's work](#) pressuring the MS Department of Insurance is ongoing.

[Deborah Trotter](#), Merlin Law Group's lead attorney in Mississippi, explains how things have played out in the MS. legislature and Department of Insurance regulations since Kevin began his work: <https://www.propertyinsurancecoveragelaw.com/2018/08/articles/consumer-protection/mississippi-is-moving-slow-as-molasses-in-january/>