NIST Advertisement regarding the Interview Study of survivors and friends and families of the victims of the May 22, 2011 Joplin, MO Tornado (written in the form of a NIST press release)

## NIST Seeks Interview Participants as Part of its Technical Study of the May 22, 2011 Joplin, MO Tornado

On June 29, 2011, the Director of the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) established a Team to study the effects of the tornado that touched down in Joplin, MO, on May 22. An important part of the Technical Study is to understand how people within the warning area responded to the tornado disaster. The Team will be conducting a series of interviews to obtain key information on what individuals saw, heard, felt and did on the evening of Sunday, May 22, 2011.

NIST is urging survivors and family or friends of victims of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> tornado to take part in the upcoming interview process. We are hoping to learn as much as we can about the Joplin, MO tornado disaster to improve public safety in the future. In order to do this, we are hoping to speak with the individuals who experienced this event firsthand as well as individuals who have knowledge about the actions taken by those who lost their lives. For more information about this study, please visit the following website: [*insert website to NIST's final plan for the Joplin, MO tornado study*].

If you are interested in participating in this study by sharing your story with us, please contact Erica Kuligowski (ADD OTHERS HERE AS NECESSARY) at the following:

Erica Kuligowski Work phone: 301-975-2309 Cell phone: (*add cell phone here if necessary*) E-mail: <u>erica.kuligowski@nist.gov</u>