

## CASE STUDY KENTUCKY LEAGUE OF CITIES

SEVERE WINTER STORM RESULTS IN  
33 DISASTER ALERTS IN THE MIDWEST



As severe winter storms swept through the Midwest in January 2009, Kentucky government leaders braced for what would become the worst natural disaster to hit the Bluegrass state in over 100 years. The resulting devastation stretched across the state, leveling trees, phone lines and causing massive power outages. Countless cities were rendered helpless and without the resources to restore critical functions or protect its citizens. Kentucky League of Cities turned to a solution that has never failed – Agility Recovery.

Several months prior to the historic storm, Peel & Holland, a Kentucky-based insurance company and Agility Recovery member, recommended Agility to The Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) as a means to bolster its statewide continuity of operations plan. The Agility/KLC disaster planning initiative provides continuity of operations plans as well as vital on-demand services and assets to cities across the state, such as satellite phone and Internet communications and power generators. The program was the first partnership of its kind in the nation between a municipal league representing cities and a disaster recovery provider. Nearly 280 municipalities are now protected as a part of the recovery solution established by Agility.

“Public entities require the same basic coverage as many businesses and organizations. However, because of broad operations, oftentimes there are increased exposures that need to be covered as well,” said Peel & Holland President Roy Riley. “The KLC disaster recovery program not only ensures

*“Municipalities throughout the country should look at these Kentucky cities and commend them for their proactive disaster planning. January’s ice storm was the worst disaster to ever hit Kentucky. These cities’ ability to restore critical services within hours of the storm saved lives and enabled State and National resources to attend to areas with critical needs.”*

**Steve Beshear**, Kentucky Governor  
'07 - Present

**LOCATION:** Kentucky

**EMPLOYEES:** 35

**INDUSTRY:** Government /  
Public Sector

**MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE:**  
ReadySuite 48

**INTERRUPTION:** Winter Storm.  
Agility recovered 23 facilities and  
responded to 33 disaster alerts.

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continuity of operations for municipalities, it lessens their insurance claims resulting from disasters.”

“Agility Recovery was literally a lifesaver,” said Arthur Byrn, mayor of the City of Mayfield. “They brought us generators that not only powered city hall, but also our emergency shelters and water plant. People had a warm place to sleep and clean water to drink. Our ability to recover made all the difference in the world.”

Generators and other recovery resources were distributed to the affected areas of Kentucky within hours due to Agility’s vast network of assets positioned across North America and its virtual resource program. The latter ensures members receive the cost-saving benefit of Agility’s priority relationships with equipment vendors, and pay only the shipping costs associated with the closest equipment yard to the disaster despite the actual location of the asset.

Not only did Agility Recovery fulfill the immediate needs of KLC, but businesses affected by the storm in Missouri and Ohio were also rescued during the same timeframe. In total, Agility responded to 25 disaster declarations and 35 alerts. KLC utilizes Agility Recovery for both proactive continuity planning and, if needed, disaster recovery. Agility’s staff of continuity planners continually work with these cities to plan for interruptions caused by natural and manmade disasters. Planning initiatives address critical areas like emergency communication plans, alternative office and administrative space, technology replacement, employee continuity and more.

“We were drawn to the flexibility of the program,” said Sylvia Lovely, executive director and CEO of Kentucky League of Cities. “In the case of January’s ice storm, our cities really needed generators, and they got them. But in the event of a tornado, fire, or even a server failure, our cities will need other tools. And they have complete access to the resources they need because of this disaster recovery program.”

*Twenty-three cities and municipalities in Kentucky had emergency generators onsite within hours of the January 27 ice storm. These generators supported rescue and recovery efforts and powered city halls, civic centers, 911 command centers, community shelters and water plants.*

To learn more about the KLC recovery experience or Agility Recovery’s public sector solutions, please visit [www2.agilityrecovery.com/public-sector](http://www2.agilityrecovery.com/public-sector) or call 866.364.9696.