



# DISASTER NEWS

*Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes*

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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## **SBA Disaster Assistance Exceeds \$1 Million in West Virginia; Official Urges Return of Disaster Loan Applications**

**ATLANTA** – More than \$1 million in U. S. Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Loans have been approved for disaster victims in West Virginia as a result of damages caused by severe storms, flooding, mudslides and landslides that occurred on June 12 – 29, 2010.

“Currently, 43 disaster loans have been approved in the amount of \$1,071,400.00 for affected victims,” said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA Field Operations Center East. “We are pleased to be able to get these loans approved so the residents of West Virginia can start rebuilding and resuming their normal lives.”

Those who received an SBA loan application are encouraged to return them before the **August 23 deadline** even if they do not want a loan. If the SBA is not able to approve a loan for a homeowner or renter, they will be referred to FEMA for possible grant assistance. “I encourage anyone who has not completed their disaster loan application to meet with one of the Customer Service Representatives at any of the Centers located throughout the disaster area for one-on-one assistance,” Skaggs added.

Homeowners and renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate.

Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. The SBA may increase a loan up to 20 percent of the total amount of disaster damage to real estate and/or leasehold improvements, as verified by SBA, to make improvements that lessen the risk of property damage by future disasters of the same kind.

For small businesses, and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.75 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

Victims should register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 800-621-FEMA (3362) in order to be considered for all forms of disaster assistance

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Anyone may obtain program information by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EDT or by sending an e-mail to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Business loan applications may be downloaded from [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov). Applications may be returned to one of the Centers or mailed to: U. S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, Texas, 76155.

Victims may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **August 23, 2010**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **March 24, 2011**.

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*For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).*