



DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

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Small Businesses Wanting to Meet with SBA About Disaster Assistance for Winter Storms May Contact the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce

Sacramento, CA – Samuel C. Jones, Regional Administrator of the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Kansas City Regional Office, today said that the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce will help owners of small businesses meet with an SBA Customer Service Representative if their business has been financially impacted by the winter storms that occurred from November 30 through December 2, 2006.

“SBA is offering low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help small businesses in **Franklin, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis** and **Warren** counties that were economically affected by the severe winter storms that caused freezing and heavy snow,” said Jones. “An SBA Customer Service Representative will be in the St. Charles area from Tuesday, March 20 through Thursday, March 29 to meet with business owners one-on-one to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s loan program, explain the application process and help each business owner complete their application,” Jones said.

“If any business owner would like to meet with SBA, they should contact Wendy Rackovan, Marketing and Communications Director, at the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce at **(636) 946-0633**. Ms. Rackovan will make sure SBA has their information to schedule an appointment at their business location,” he continued.

“So far, SBA has made more than \$800,000 in low-interest disaster loans to Missouri small businesses to help them recover from the financial effects of the winter storm,” said Jones. “SBA’s disaster declaration makes these low-interest loans available to small businesses to help them meet financial needs caused by a decrease in customer sales because of the freeze and snow,” Jones said. These are working capital loans of up to \$1.5 million at an interest rate of 4 percent with terms up to 30 years.

“Small businesses may use these loans to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills the business can’t pay because of the disaster’s impact. These loans provide vital economic assistance to businesses affected by the freeze and snow to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing,” he said.

If a business owner is unable to meet with SBA, information about SBA’s disaster loan program is available by calling toll-free **(800) 659-2955** or visiting SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **November 1, 2007**.

For more information visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance

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