



# DISASTER NEWS

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

**Release Date:** March 7, 2007  
**Release Number:** LA 10815-02

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## **SBA DISASTER LOAN ASSISTANCE TOPS \$1 MILLION FOR VICTIMS OF THE TORNADOES AND STORMS**

**Sacramento, CA** – Eugene Cornelius, Jr., Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) New Orleans District Office, announced today that SBA has approved more than \$1.1 million in low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, and businesses of all sizes whose property was damaged by the tornadoes and severe storms in Jefferson, Orleans and St. Martin Parishes that occurred February 12 and 13.

“SBA’s disaster assistance employees have been meeting with Louisiana residents and business owners since the day after President Bush’s February 23 disaster declaration. SBA is committed to helping Louisiana residents and business owners rebuild their homes, their businesses, and their lives as fast as possible and will be here as long as it takes to get the job done,” said Cornelius.

Individuals and business owners who suffered damage as a result of the tornadoes and storms are encouraged to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by calling the tele-registration number at (800) 621-3362 or (800) 462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. “Don’t miss out on any assistance you may be entitled to by not registering for help,” he added.

“SBA Customer Service Representatives will continue to be available at the following Disaster Recovery Centers on the days and times indicated to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process, and help each individual complete their application. You don’t need an appointment to visit the Disaster Recovery Centers,” Cornelius said.

**JEFFERSON PARISH**  
Disaster Recovery Center  
Westwego Gym  
1200 Avenue D  
Westwego, LA

**ORLEANS PARISH**  
Disaster Recovery Center  
Mt. Tabor Baptist Church  
4128 Franklin Avenue  
New Orleans, LA

Mondays thru Saturdays 8 am to 6 pm  
Sundays 12 pm to 6 pm

Mondays thru Saturdays 8 am to 6 pm  
Sundays 12 pm to 6 pm

**ORLEANS PARISH**  
Disaster Recovery Center  
St. Mathew United Church of Christ  
1333 S. Carrollton Avenue  
New Orleans, LA

**ST. MARTIN PARISH**  
Disaster Recovery Center  
ST. Martin Fire Training Center  
1035-A Ruth Bridge Highway  
Breaux Bridge, LA

Mondays thru Saturdays 8 am to 6 pm  
Sundays 12 pm to 6 pm

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(more)

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

Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses only, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

“SBA is the federal government’s primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private non-profit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations,” said Cornelius.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit SBA in person may obtain information and loan applications by calling SBA’s customer service center toll-free at **(800) 659-2955** or visiting SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **April 24, 2007**. The deadline to return Economic Injury Disaster Loan applications is **November 23, 2007**.