



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA DISASTER LOAN ASSISTANCE TOPS \$3 MILLION FOR TEXAS TORNADO VICTIMS

Sacramento, CA – Pamela Sapia, Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) San Antonio District Office, announced today that SBA has approved over \$3 million in disaster loans to homeowners, renters, and businesses damaged by severe storms and tornadoes that occurred April 21 through April 24, 2007.

“SBA’s disaster assistance employees are committed to helping Texas residents and business owners rebuild their homes, their businesses and their lives as fast as possible,” said Sapia. Individuals and business owners who sustained damages are encouraged to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by calling the tele-registration number at (800) 621-3362 or (800) 462-7586 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired, prior to the July 2, 2007 deadline. “Don’t miss out on any assistance you may be entitled to by not registering for help,” she said.

“SBA is the Federal government’s primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and covers 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,” she continued.

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 homeowners and businesses to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

SBA also offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs of small businesses, which suffered economic injury relating to the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Individuals and business owners may obtain disaster loan applications and information by calling the SBA toll-free at **(800) 659-2955** between 8 am and 9 pm EDT, Monday through Friday, or 9 am and 3 pm EDT on Saturday. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339. Individuals and business owners may also visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **July 2, 2007**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **February 1, 2008**.

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

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