



# ***DISASTER NEWS***

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

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Media Contact: Richard A. Jenkins  
Phone: (916) 735-1500

## **One Year After Hurricane Ike SBA Disaster Assistance Tops \$637 Million in Texas**

**Sacramento, CA** – With the anniversary of Hurricane Ike approaching, Manuel R. Gonzalez, the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Houston District Director, announced today that SBA has approved more than \$637.3 million in disaster loans to help more than 10,000 Texas homeowners, renters and businesses recover and rebuild from the devastation caused by Hurricane Ike.

According to Gonzalez, SBA responded to the needs of Texas residents and business owners by deploying 374 SBA disaster assistance workers to Texas to provide one-on-one service to disaster victims. SBA representatives staffed 105 Disaster Recovery Centers, 22 SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers and 8 SBA Business Assistance Centers. At these centers, SBA representatives personally met with more than 88,400 disaster victims to answer questions, explain SBA’s disaster loan program, help complete disaster loan applications and close disaster loans.

In times of disaster, SBA disaster loans are the Federal government’s primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA disaster loans help pay the costs to repair or replace disaster-damaged homes and personal possessions, as well as businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations.

“SBA approved \$431.8 million in disaster loans for 8,470 Texas residents to repair or replace their disaster-damaged or destroyed homes and personal possessions. SBA approved \$205.5 million for 1,571 Texas businesses and private, non-profit organizations to repair or replace their real estate, machinery, equipment, inventory, other business assets and provide working capital to help meet disaster related needs,” said Gonzalez. The SBA disaster loan program also provided funds to help residents and businesses with the cost of making improvements to prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

SBA disaster loan information is available from SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) or visiting SBA’s Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

*For more information, visit SBA’s Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).  
SBA Field Operations Center - West, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841*

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