



# ***DISASTER NEWS***

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

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## ***SBA Honors Texas Business Owner Michael McDaniel for Outstanding Disaster Recovery***

**SACRAMENTO** – Hurricane Ike slammed into Galveston Island on Sept 12, 2008, a category two hurricane with 110 mile per hour winds and a ferocious storm surge that left its mark as the third costliest hurricane ever to make landfall in the U.S. Michael McDaniel and his team from McDaniel Construction, despite evacuation warnings, stayed behind to physically secure buildings belonging to friends, family and clients. Their decision to remain on the island earned praise from clients who said their pre-storm efforts prevented further losses.

Still, many buildings on the island were nearly destroyed. Michael's company sustained damages totaling \$245,000, and Michael and his wife Patricia's 22-unit apartment complex, consisting of five separate buildings, sustained \$644,000 in damages. In one day, Michael suffered nearly \$900,000 in property losses.

As a Galveston native with deep roots in the community, Michael was committed to preserving the area's character while it rebuilt better and stronger. He received two SBA disaster loans for \$610,000 to rebuild his business and the apartment complex. Meanwhile, he and his 18 full-time employees never took a break. Within 90 days, 22 families were able to return to the apartment complex.

In addition to contributing to the economic stability of Galveston by getting his entire staff back on the job quickly, Michael has also created many new jobs in the area, hiring subcontractors to rebuild the city. Meanwhile, McDaniel Construction is improving the standard by which homes vulnerable to hurricanes should be built, reconstructing the damaged properties and building new homes that can withstand future hurricanes.

For his display of resilience and dedication to the rebuilding of Galveston after Hurricane Ike, Michael McDaniel will receive the ***2010 Phoenix Award for Small Business Disaster Recovery***.

"The Phoenix Award is an acknowledgment of a business owner's heroic efforts and a recognition of the contributions they make to the economic recovery of their communities," said SBA Administrator Karen G. Mills. "Michael McDaniel displayed tremendous courage and resourcefulness in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, and he exemplifies the spirit one must have to rebound after a disaster like this."

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The Phoenix Award will be presented on May 24, 2010, during the U.S. Small Business Administration's National Small Business Week celebration, May 23-25, at the Mandarin

Oriental Hotel in Washington, D.C. Events can be viewed virtually through SBA's free, live webcasting, which will be accessible at <http://www.nationalsmallbusinessweek.com/>.

Additional information on National Small Business Week, including a detailed schedule and registration information, is available online at [www.NationalSmallBusinessWeek.com](http://www.NationalSmallBusinessWeek.com).

Since 1998, the SBA has given the Phoenix Award to business owners, public officials and volunteers who displayed selflessness, ingenuity and tenacity in the aftermath of a disaster, while contributing to the rebuilding of their communities.

The SBA makes low-interest, taxpayer-backed disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and non-profit organizations of all sizes. More information about the disaster assistance program is available at [www.sba.gov/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/disasterassistance).

For more information about National Small Business Week, visit [www.sba.gov/sbw](http://www.sba.gov/sbw).

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