

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Van Buren to Close

Sacramento, CA – Linda Nelson, Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration's Arkansas District Office, announced today that SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center in **Van Buren** will close on **Friday, June 27** at **6 pm**. "Until then, SBA is continuing to provide one-on-one, personal service to disaster victims of the flooding, severe storms and tornadoes that occurred March 18 through April 28," she said.

"SBA customer service representatives continue to be available at the Disaster Loan Outreach Center to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process, help each individual complete their application and close their approved disaster loans," Nelson continued.

"Individuals and businesses who sustained losses from the March 18 through April 28 flooding, severe storms and tornadoes can speak with SBA representatives on the days and times indicated below. No appointment is necessary," she added.

CRAWFORD COUNTY VAN BUREN

Disaster Loan Outreach Center Van Buren Municipal Complex 1003 Broadway Street

Monday - Friday 9 am -6 pm **Closes Friday**, **June 27** at **6 pm**

SBA offers low-interest Federal disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations to repair or replace property damaged or destroyed by the disaster. So far, SBA has approved over \$8.2 million in low-interest disaster loans to Arkansas residents and businesses hurt by the storms.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace their damaged or destroyed primary residence. 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 homeowners and business owners 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.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, victims must first call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at (800) 621-3362.

SBA disaster assistance information is also available by calling SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955, emailing <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u> or visiting SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

The deadline to return applications for property damage is **June 27, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury loan applications is **December 29, 2008**.