



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA STANDS READY TO ASSIST MISSOURI VICTIMS OF THE SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING THAT BEGAN JUNE 1

SACRAMENTO – Low-interest disaster loans are now available to Missouri residents and businesses as a result of President Bush’s Federal disaster declaration, Jovita Carranza, Acting Administrator of the U. S. Small Business Administration, announced.

The declaration covers the Missouri counties of **Clark, Lewis, Lincoln, Marion, Pike, Ralls and Saint Charles** as a result of the severe storms and flooding that began June 1.

“We look forward to working with the State of Missouri to make our loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes affected by the severe storms and flooding,” said Acting Administrator Carranza. “We will be swift in our efforts to help Missouri disaster victims rebuild their homes and businesses. Once local recovery facilities are identified in the declared areas, SBA officials will provide one-on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants,” 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.

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.

Interest rates can be as low as 2.687 percent for homeowners and renters and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based upon each applicant’s financial condition.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, victims should first call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at (800) 621-3362. Additional details and the location of assistance centers can be obtained by calling the SBA Customer Service Center at **(800) 659-2955**, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov or on SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **August 27, 2008**. The EIDL deadline is **March 30, 2009**.

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

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