



# ***DISASTER NEWS***

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

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## **SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Louisiana Residents and Businesses Affected by the Severe Storms, Tornadoes and Flooding in Caddo Parish**

**SACRAMENTO** – Jovita Carranza, Acting Administrator of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA), announced that low-interest disaster loans are now available to residents and businesses affected by the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding that occurred May 13 through May 15 in Caddo Parish.

By declaring a disaster, Acting Administrator Carranza’s action makes the SBA assistance available. The declaration covers the Louisiana parishes of **Bossier, Caddo, De Soto** and **Red River**; the Texas counties of **Cass, Harrison, Marion** and **Panola**; and the Arkansas counties of **Lafayette** and **Miller**.

“We look forward to working with Louisiana and the people affected by the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding to make SBA disaster loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses,” said Acting Administrator Carranza.

Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center-West, said that following the August 8 denial of the state’s appeal for a major disaster declaration, SBA acted under its own authority to declare these counties a disaster area.

“Low-interest Federal disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding,” said Michael W. Ricks, SBA’s Louisiana District Director.

“SBA customer service representatives will be on hand beginning Tuesday, August 19 at 9 am at the following SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center, on the days and times indicated. These SBA representatives will issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application,” Ricks continued.

**Bossier City, LA**  
Caddo-Bossier Office of Homeland  
Security & Emergency Preparedness  
Conference Room  
1511 Doctors Drive

Intersection of Doctors Dr and Shed Rd, 1 block west of Airline Drive

Mondays through Fridays from 9 am – 6 pm  
Tuesday, August 19 through Thursday, September 4  
*Closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 1*

*(more)*

Disaster victims may also go online to file an application for recovery assistance from SBA. SBA's new electronic loan application can be accessed via the SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. This online application provides a convenient alternative for disaster victims as they take their first steps toward rebuilding after a disaster.

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 \$2 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 and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes, 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.

Individuals and business owners may obtain information by contacting SBA's Customer Service Center at **(800) 659-2955** or [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 contact SBA at (800) 877-8339.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **October 14, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **May 15, 2009**.

*For more information visit SBA's Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance>*

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