



# DISASTER NEWS

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

Release Date: November 21, 2008  
Release Number: TX 11430-13

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

## **SBA Transitions High Island Disaster Recovery Center to an SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center for Ike Victims**

**Sacramento, CA** – Manuel R. Gonzalez, the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Houston District Director, today announced the transition of the High Island Disaster Recovery Center to an SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center. The center will provide a wide range of services to homeowners, renters and businesses affected by Hurricane Ike. The center will open **Friday, November 21**.

“SBA customer service representatives will be on hand 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 disaster loans,” said Gonzalez.

The center will be open at the following location on the days and times indicated.

### **Galveston County**

High Island High School  
2113 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
High Island, TX

Mondays thru Friday  
9:00 am to 5:30 pm

Opens **November 21 at 9:00** am until further notice

“So far, SBA has approved more than \$331 million in low-interest disaster loans to Texas residents and businesses affected by the hurricane,” Gonzalez continued.

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, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business or non-profit suffered any property damage.

(more)

Individuals and business owners unable to visit SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center may obtain information by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955 or [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339 or visit SBA's website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).

Disaster victims may now go online to file an SBA application for disaster loan assistance. The Electronic Loan Application (ELA) is accessible via SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster victims should first register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by calling (800) 621-3362, or visit their web site at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **December 12, 2008**. The EIDL deadline is **June 15, 2009**.