



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA to Close Disaster Loan Outreach Centers in Galveston, Jefferson and Orange Counties

Sacramento, CA – Manuel R. Gonzalez, Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Houston District Office, announced today that SBA will close its Disaster Loan Outreach Centers in **Galveston, Jefferson and Orange Counties** on **Wednesday, November 14 at 5 pm**. The outreach centers are open from 8 am to 5 pm Mondays through Fridays until then, but will be closed on November 12 for Veterans Day. The Galveston center is located at **High Island High School, 2113 6th Street in High Island**. The Jefferson center is located at the **Ford Park Events Center, Liberty Room, 5115 Interstate 10 South in Beaumont**. The Orange center is located at the **Orange County Law Library, 902B Division Avenue**.

“Low-interest Federal disaster loans from SBA are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Humberto,” said Gonzalez. SBA customer service representatives have been available at the outreach centers since October 24 to provide personalized disaster assistance to residents and businesses in response to Hurricane Humberto.

Disaster loans of 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 homeowners and business owners to help with the cost of making improvements that prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future. The deadline to return applications for property damage is **December 21, 2007**.

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. The deadline to return economic injury loan applications is **July 22, 2008**.

After SBA’s outreach centers close, individuals and businesses should mail their completed applications to the U. S. Small Business Administration at 14925 Kingsport Road, Forth Worth, TX 76155.

Individuals and business owners unable to visit SBA at one of the centers may obtain information by calling toll-free **(800) 659-2955** or visiting SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339.

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

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