



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA to Open a Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Cameron County as Hurricane Dolly Filing Deadline Approaches

Sacramento, CA – Kim Jones, District Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Harlingen District office, announced today that SBA will open a Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Harlingen to provide personal service to homeowners, renters and business owners impacted by Hurricane Dolly.

SBA will begin operations Wednesday, September 24. “SBA Customer Service Representatives will be on hand to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process, and help each individual complete their application and close their disaster loans,” Jones said. The center will be open on the days and times below:

Cameron County

U. S. Small Business Administration
Lower Rio Grande District Office
222 East Van Buren Street
5th Floor Conference Room
Harlingen, TX

Mondays – Fridays, 9 am to 6 pm
Until further notice

“So far, SBA has approved more than \$8.9 million in low-interest disaster loans to Texas residents and businesses affected by the hurricane,” she 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.

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. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339 or visit SBA’s website at 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>.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **September 30, 2008**. The EIDL deadline is **May 1, 2009**.

For more information visit SBA’s website at <http://www.sba.gov>.
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