



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Texas Residents and Businesses Affected by the Severe Storms and Tornadoes in Grayson County

SACRAMENTO – Sandy K. Baruah, Acting Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), today announced that low-interest disaster loans are now available to Texas residents and business owners affected by the severe storms and tornadoes in Grayson County that occurred on December 8, 2008.

By declaring a disaster, Acting Administrator Baruah’s action makes the SBA assistance available. Baruah’s action responded to a request from Governor Rick Perry SBA received December 16. The declaration covers the primary county of **Grayson** and the contiguous counties of **Collin, Cooke, Denton** and **Fannin** in Texas as well as **Bryan, Love** and **Marshall** in Oklahoma.

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

“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 disaster,” said Joseph O. Montes, SBA’s Regional Administrator. “SBA customer service representatives will be on hand beginning **Monday, December 22 at 10 am** at the following Disaster Loan Outreach Center (DLOC) to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application,” he continued. The center will be located in the following community and will be open on the days and time indicated:

Grayson County Courthouse
100 West Houston Street
Suite G-2, Basement Level
(enter Courthouse at west entrance)
Sherman, TX 75090

Open December 22 at 10 am
Monday - Fridays
8 am – 5 pm
Closed December 24 – December 28

Re-opens December 29 at 10 am
Mondays – Fridays
8 am – 5 pm
Closed January 1
Open through January 15

(more)

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 \$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 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 and most private, non-profit organizations of any size, 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 unable to visit SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center may contact SBA's Customer Service Center by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955 or by emailing SBA at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339 or visit SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Additionally, 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 **February 16, 2009**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **September 18, 2009**.

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

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