



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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Contact: Michael Lampton
Phone: (404) 331-0333

SBA Opens Disaster Loan Outreach Center In Leon County

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announces today the opening of a Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Leon County in the Leroy Collins Library. This Center is scheduled to open on **Monday, September 22 at 10 a.m.** and cease operations on **October 3** at the close of business. The location of the Center makes it convenient for disaster survivors affected by Tropical Storm Fay that occurred on August 18 through September 12, 2008 to apply for disaster loan assistance.

“I encourage anyone who has not completed their disaster loan application to meet with the Customer Service Representative at the Leon County Center or any of the Centers located throughout the disaster area for one-on-one assistance,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

The location of the Disaster Loan Outreach Center is:

LEON COUNTY

Leroy Collins Library
200 West Park Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Opens: Monday, September 22, 2008 at 10 a.m.
Hours: Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Closing: Friday, October 3, 2008 at the close of business

“Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property,” Skaggs added.

Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, inventory, machinery and equipment. The SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage in the future.

For small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes, the 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.

Interest rates are as low as 2.875 percent for homeowners and renters, and 4.000 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based upon each applicant’s financial condition.

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Anyone unable to visit one of the Centers may obtain an SBA Disaster Loan application or the SBA's program information by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (or 1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT or by emailing our customer service center at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Business loan applications may be downloaded from www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Applications may be returned to one of the Centers or mailed to: U. S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, Texas, 76155.

Survivors may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **October 27, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **May 26, 2009**.

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For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.