



DISASTER NEWS

Physical and Economic Injury Loans for Businesses

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

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SBA Centers Close in Recognition of Thanksgiving Day; Return of Applications Urged Before the December 30th Deadline

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announces today that its Centers will close **Thursday, November 27** in recognition of Thanksgiving Day. The Centers will resume normal operating hours Friday, November 28 to help individuals and businesses impacted by the Hurricane Omar that occurred from October 14 -16, 2008.

Victims are urged to complete and return their SBA disaster loan application before the **December 30** deadline. “I encourage anyone who needs help to meet with a Customer Service Representative at one of the Centers below for one-on-one assistance,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center in Atlanta.

The Centers are located in the following communities and locations:

SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers (DLOCs)

Both Centers will be closed Thursday, November 27 for Thanksgiving

Island of Saint Croix	
Florence Williams Public Library	The Athalie McFarlane Petersen Public Library
1122 King Street	604 Strand Street
Christiansted, VI 00820	Frederiksted, VI 00840
Open: Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Open: Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., except for November 29	

The SBA offers loans up to \$200,000 to repair disaster damaged primary residences. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to replace personal property such as furniture, appliances and clothing. Loans to businesses of all sizes and non-profit organizations are available up to \$2 million to repair damage to real estate, machinery, inventory and equipment.

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) are available to small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes 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 SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Victims who are unable to visit a Center may obtain an application by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing-impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. EST or by emailing the Customer Service Center at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Completed applications should be returned to one of the Centers or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX. 76155.

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

The filing deadline to return applications for physical damage is **December 30, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **July 31, 2009**.

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