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News Release

IT'S IMPORTANT TO RETURN THE SBA LOAN APPLICATION PROMPTLY

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Disaster applicants who registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for disaster assistance and received a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster loan application must complete and return it even if they do not want a loan. A completed disaster loan application is the gateway to determining the type of assistance a homeowner or renter may be eligible for.

Filling out the disaster loan application does not mean an applicant will be approved for a loan, nor does it mean they must accept a loan if they are approved. If the applicant is denied a loan, they may be considered for other FEMA programs. Insurance does not have to be settled before submitting a completed SBA disaster loan application.

“We encourage everyone who has received the SBA disaster loan application to return it as soon as possible,” said Federal Coordinating Officer Thomas J. McCool. “The sooner we have the completed application, the quicker we can get help to those who need it.”

The SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to help cover the cost of repairing or replacing lost or damaged structures and personal property.

For more information, contact the SBA Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visit the SBA Web site at www.sba.gov. Those affected by this disaster may fill out a loan application online by visiting SBA’s website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. You may also speak with a customer service representative by visiting a Disaster Recovery Center. To find a DRC near you visit fema.gov/drclocator.

Disaster survivors who have not yet registered with FEMA can apply for assistance online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling this toll-free number, 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. daily. Those with speech or hearing impairments may call TTY 1-800-462-7585 directly. For those who use 7-1-1 or Video Relay Service (VRS) call 1-800-621-3362.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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