



County Office of Emergency Management
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PRESS RELEASE

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SMALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY MAY QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Qualifying Local Businesses and Nonprofits May Apply for Disaster Loans

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – The County of Santa Barbara was recently included in two separate federal assistance programs stemming from severe winter storms that impacted the county February 1-25, 2017. Businesses and nonprofit organizations in Santa Barbara County that believe they were adversely impacted due to the 2017 February storms are encouraged to contact the SBA as soon as possible to check their eligibility status. Following is criteria and contact information.

The first assistance program applies specifically to private, nonprofit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature. Private, nonprofits that fit the criteria are eligible to apply for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The application deadline for any physical property damage is May 31, 2017. The application deadline for economic injury is January 2, 2018. Eligible applicants can apply by contacting the SBA toll free at **(800) 659-2955**, online at www.sba.gov/disaster, or send e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll free at **(800) 877-8339** for assistance.

The second program applies specifically to small, non-farm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, and most private nonprofit organizations of any size. Applicants that meet the criteria may apply for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans. The application deadline is January 19, 2018. Eligible businesses can apply by contacting the SBA toll free at **(800) 659-2955**, online at www.sba.gov/disaster, or send e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll free at **(800) 877-8339**.

The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management will continue to provide updates regarding any additional assistance programs that may become available to the county as a result of the storms. For information about County OEM, go to www.countyofsb.org/ceo/oem/. For information about Santa Barbara County government, go to www.CountyofSB.org.