

Joint Field Office (JFO)
13900 Hull Street Road, Midlothian, Virginia
Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

Louisa County Earthquake / 2011-08

FEMA-4042-DR-VA

SITUATION REPORT #65

1600 Hours Monday, December 19, 2011
Next SITREP 1600 Hours Tuesday, December 20, 2011

SUMMARY

Gov. Bob McDonnell declared a State of Emergency for Virginia August 26, in response to the 5.8 magnitude Louisa County earthquake August 23. Several thousand residents and dozens of businesses and other entities reported damage. Louisa County High School and Thomas Jefferson Elementary School suffered major damage.

Aftershocks continue to rumble through the area. The Central Virginia earthquake area experienced a total of 50 recorded aftershocks in excess of 2.0 magnitude. The latest occurred on December 14 with a magnitude of 2.0.

An expanded outreach program, extensive site visits and inspections have turned up large numbers of structures with significant damage that had previously gone undetected or unreported.

Individual Assistance

FEMA denied the Commonwealth's request Individual Assistance for Louisa County October 7, but based on additional data, reversed its decision November 4 and approved assistance for individuals and business owners in Louisa County.

IA Registration in Selected Localities (as of 12/19/11)	
Locality	Number
Chesterfield	10
Fairfax	20
Fluvanna	71
Goochland	54
Louisa	3,075
Orange	55
Richmond Co.	10
Spotsylvania	66
Total	3,478
Percent of All Registrations	96%

FEMA granted a 60-day extension of the teleregistration period December 20. VDEM requested the extension because of the steady high volume of teleregistrations and the number of individuals visiting the Disaster Recovery Center in Louisa. The volume of registrations and visits reflected the efforts of an intensive Community Relations initiative.

A total of 3,478 individuals have registered with FEMA to seek assistance. Of them, 64 percent have been approved for financial assistance totaling \$6.6 million.

In today's IA report, 3,478 individuals from 54 Virginia jurisdictions had called the FEMA teleregistration number to report earthquake damages. Most of the increase of 105 registrants came from Louisa County with 92.

Ten recipients are eligible for the maximum Individual and Households Program grant of \$31,400.

**Individual Assistance Daily Summary
(COB 12/17/2011)**

Total Registrations	3,479	Reg. in Undesignated Counties	403
Individual & Households Program (IHP)			
Registration Referrals	2,853	Total \$ Approvals	\$6,555,610.97
Registrations Approved	2,212	Total \$ Disbursed	\$6,381,376.04
Eligibility Rate	78%		

Broken Down As:

Housing Assistance (HA)

Registration Referrals	2,840	Total \$ Approved	\$6,520,752.68
Registrations Approved	2,174	Total \$ Disbursed	\$6,347,113.03
Eligibility Rate	77%	Average Award	\$2,999.43

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

Referrals	673	Total \$ Approved	\$34,858.29
Approved	219	Total \$ Disbursed	\$34,263.01

Inspection Services (IS)

Inspections Requested	2,861	Inspections Outstanding	25
Inspections Performed	2,836		

Community Relations

Since November 9, VDEM and FEMA Community Relations teams have fanned out in an expanded outreach program throughout Louisa County to provide information about disaster assistance programs and encourage residents and businesses to register. The teams also spoke before community and religious groups.

CR teams reported by the end of the weekend that they had visited 9,352 homes in Louisa, which has a population of 33,000. They met face-to-face with 3,569 individuals. A total of 1,870 reported damage, but only 509 had registered with FEMA at the time of the visit.

Disaster Recovery Center

Visits to the DRC remain remarkably high this far into the disaster recovery process. As householders have started to receive their disaster payments, some visitors to the DRC are seeking clarification. Others are asking about the approval process or are applicants registering for the first time. **The 978 individuals who registered at the DRC represented about 28 percent of all registrants.**

The DRC closed temporarily for the holidays starting 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 17, and will reopen at 10 a.m., Thursday, January 5. Help will still be available on-line and by telephone.

Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Louisa

As of 12/19/11

	Daily	Cumulative
Total Activity	58	2,131
Registrations	11	978

SBA Loans

The Small Business Administration reported that it has approved \$1.4 million in low-interest loans to repair damages from the quake. Loans to businesses came to \$352,300.

**Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans
As of 12/18/2011**

	Home	Business	Economic Injury	Total
Applications Issued	2,132	275	2	2,409
Applications Received	194	11	0	205
Number Approved	49	2	0	50
Dollars Approved	\$1,097,300	\$352,300	\$0	\$1,449,600

Public Assistance

The governor announced November 10 that FEMA had approved a Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance for Louisa County requested by the Commonwealth October 21. FEMA designated Spotsylvania County November 18 as an add-on for Public Assistance. On December 6, FEMA added the city of Fredericksburg as eligible for Public Assistance.

As the extent of significant amounts of infrastructure and private structural damage became apparent, VDEM and FEMA sent out additional joint assessment teams to quantify it in surrounding jurisdictions. On December 6, FEMA granted an extension of the deadline to December 22 for completing verification of damages for both Individual and Public Assistance requests in undesignated localities.

Arizona and Louisiana have responded to a VDEM Emergency Management Assistance Compact request for additional Public Assistance staff. The two states offered to send one supervisor and seven public assistance specialists for 30 days starting in January.

**Summary of Public Assistance Activity (FEMA 4042)
As of 12/19/11**

Requests for Public Assistance	9	Projected Project Worksheets	50
Applicants Ineligible or Withdrawn	0	Project Worksheets Received	9
Exit Briefs Completed	2	PWs Pending Obligated	6
Applications Open	7	PWs Obligated	0
Kickoff Meetings Completed	9	Obligated Funds	\$0
Total Applicants Completed	2		

PROGRAM REPORTS

Joint Incident Priorities:

1. Determine resource needs to support recovery operations.
2. Ensure a safe and healthy working environment.
3. Work together as a cohesive team.
4. Provide a timely and effective Hazard Mitigation program.

Joint Incident Objectives:

1. Support Disaster Recovery Center.
2. Inform potential applicants of need to register.
3. Assess survivor needs in Louisa and Spotsylvania counties.

4. Integrate volunteer agencies into the IA relief process.
5. Conduct an effective outreach strategy to manage expectations of applicants, local officials and Virginia delegation.

Deputy Commonwealth Coordinating Officer (DCCO) Brett Burdick

- Coordinate joint activities between the Commonwealth and FEMA.

Operations Section George Roarty:

- **Draft combined Individual and Public Assistance add-on request letter for review.**
- **Submitted request letter December 12 to extend teleregistrations 60 days to accommodate potential add-ons.**
- Coordinated with VEOC in the development of EMAC request for deputy public assistance officers, assistant VirginiaPA.org grant reviewers and recovery specialists.
- Submitted extension request letter for Individual Assistance add-ons.
- Coordinated with Louisa County officials on how to distribute recovery information to houses posted with no trespassing signs. County fire and rescue personnel distributed information on assistance availability and how to apply for it.
- Continue to support the Disaster Recovery Center for the delivery of disaster assistance.
- Conducted State Housing Task Force meeting November 29 to insure strong coordination and interface among agencies supporting recovery. Participants included the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the Virginia Housing Development Authority, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, the Piedmont Housing Alliance, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and FEMA.
- Request VHDA to identify housing resources available within a reasonable distance of the impacted area through their housing database.

Public Assistance Supervisor Nealia Dabney:

- **The last day for filing Requests for Public Assistance is Wednesday.**
- **One PDA is scheduled today in King George County.**
- **PDAs were completed Thursday in Fauquier and Culpeper counties.**
- Submitted add-on request for the city of Fredericksburg.
- Process Requests for Public Assistance.
- Complete operations plan following approval of PA request.
- Clarified state insurance coverage for add-on localities.

Individual Assistance Larry Braja:

- **Joint PDAs were conducted in the cities of Danville and Fredericksburg and Culpeper County.**
- **A Joint PDA is scheduled today in Albemarle County.**
- **A two-day training session is scheduled for today and Tuesday for the crisis counselors who will be implementing the Crisis Counseling Program grant.**

External Affairs Bob Spieldenner:

- Evaluate issues identified by CR teams for public message.
- Monitor CR staffing needs in view of potential add-on requests for Individual Assistance.
- Coordinate release of public information products with FEMA.
- Respond to inquiries from the media and citizens.
- Coordinate outreach to state elected officials and local governments.

Finance and Administration Section Virginia Moore:

- Assure efficient and cost-effective administration of disaster-related activities for the Commonwealth.

Communications/IT:

- Maintain JFO network and telephone connectivity with VITA/NG.

Logistics Section Norman Sanford:

- Furnish supplies to field and JFO team members.
- Track motor vehicle rental fleet.

Planning Section Robert Lambert:

- Develop and distribute daily JFO Situation Reports.

Prepared by: Robert Lambert, Planning Section
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/s/ Brett Burdick, DCCO, or George Roarty, DCCO