

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 #73

1600 Hours Wednesday, January 11, 2012
Next SITREP 1600 Hours Thursday, January 12, 2012

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. By mid-December, 50 aftershocks in excess of 2.0 magnitude had rumbled through Central Virginia.

FEMA announced a Presidential Major Declaration for Individual Assistance November 4 for Louisa County and added Public Assistance November 10. Later, Spotsylvania County and the city of Fredericksburg were declared for Public Assistance. An expanded outreach program, extensive site visits and inspections turned up large numbers of structures with significant damage that had previously gone undetected or unreported.

On December 28, FEMA approved requests for federal assistance for seven jurisdictions affected by the earthquake: Culpeper County, Individual and Public Assistance; Fluvanna, Goochland and Orange counties, Individual Assistance; Northampton County, Public Assistance; and Spotsylvania County and the city of Fredericksburg, Individual Assistance.

The Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) has prepared a 13-page analysis of the Louisa earthquake. The report details the seismological cause of the event, and the type and extent of damages including the impact on nearly 4,000 homes and businesses, the North Anna Nuclear Power Station and the Washington Monument. The report, which noted major differences between East Coast and West Coast quakes, looked at the limited ability of the region to deal with the impact of even a moderate earthquake on evacuation, communication and transportation. To read the report, go to: www.eqclearinghouse.org/2011-08-23-virginia/files/2011/12/EERI-GEER-DRC-Virginia-eq-report.pdf

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.

FEMA granted a 60-day extension of the teleregistration period until March 5, 2012. VDEM requested the extension because of the steady high volume of teleregistrations and the number of individuals visiting the

IA Registration in Declared Localities (As of 1/12/12)	
Locality	Number
Culpeper	51
Fluvanna	173
Fredericksburg	41
Goochland	133
Louisa	3,520
Orange	110
Spotsylvania	288
Total	4,316
Virginia Total	4,498
Percent of All Registrations	96%

Disaster Recovery Center in Louisa. The volume of registrations and visits reflected an intensive Community Relations initiative.

In today's IA report, 4,502 individuals from 60 Virginia jurisdictions had called the FEMA teleregistration number to report earthquake damages. Of the 3,986 referrals from declared localities, 75 percent have been approved for financial assistance totaling \$8.3 million. Of the 89 new registrants, 84 were from the declared jurisdictions.

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

**Individual Assistance Daily Summary
(COB 1/11/12)**

Registrations in 7 Designated Localities	4,319	Total Registrations	4,502
Registrations in 53 Undesignated Localities	183		
Individual & Households Program (IHP)			
Registration Referrals	3,986	Total \$ Approvals	\$8,335,420.18
Registrations Approved	2,970	Total \$ Disbursed	\$8,298,173.09
Eligibility Rate	75%		

Broken Down As:

Housing Assistance (HA)

Registration Referrals	3,971	Total \$ Approved	\$8,293,878.09
Registrations Approved	2,930	Total \$ Disbursed	\$8,256,552.01
Eligibility Rate	74%	Average Award	\$2,830.68

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

Referrals	856	Total \$ Approved	\$41,542.09
Approved	251	Total \$ Disbursed	\$41,621.08

Inspection Services (IS)

Inspections Requested	4,054	Inspections Outstanding	170
Inspections Performed	3,884		

Disaster Recovery Center

The Louisa DRC, closed temporarily for the holidays December 17, reopened Jan. 5. At the same time a DRC to provide services to six newly designated jurisdictions opened in Spotsylvania County. Both DRCs are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday and will be open Monday, Martin Luther King Day. If possible, individuals should teleregister prior to visiting the DRC. The toll-free number is 1-800-621-3362.

DRC Visitors 2011-12 (As of 1/11/12)

Location	Daily	2012	2011	2011-12
Louisa	44	354	2,131	2,485
Spotsylvania	19	93	0	93
TOTAL	63	447	2,131	2,578

2012 New DRC Referrals (As of 1/11/12)

DRC	Housing	SBA	Mitig.	Vols.
Louisa	324	119	156	133
Spotsylvania	82	57	64	0
Total	406	176	220	133

The Louisa DRC, which operated during November and December, had a grand total of 2,485 visitors, including 354 since it reopened. At both locations, 2,151 visitors were referred to Housing Assistance, 1,055 to SBA for home or business loans, 1,290 to Hazard Mitigation, and 1,186 to volunteer assistance organizations. In all, 1,159 of the visitors, or 45 percent, registered for disaster assistance.

Community Relations

Community Relations teams are canvassing the six newly declared jurisdictions to provide information to the public on the availability of Individual Assistance. **Teams will be active Saturday, Sunday and Monday of the Martin Luther King holiday weekend.**

Since they began their canvass January 5, the teams report they have visited 624 residences, 342 businesses, 49 faith-based and community organizations, 9 local agencies and 1 school.

**Home and Business Field Contacts in Newly Declared Localities
(As of 1/11/12)**

Type	Visited	Spoke with	Damaged	Registered
Residences	624	416	180	39
Businesses	342	326	37	9

The two-month Louisa County canvass, which ended December 23, shows CR teams visited 10,048 residences out of some 12,000 in the county of 30,000. They spoke with 3,506

individuals, of whom 1,847 reported damage and 503 had not registered at the time of the visit. The teams called on 234 businesses, 240 faith and community based groups, 28 local agencies and 4 schools.

SBA Loans

The Small Business Administration reported that it has approved \$2.3 million in low-interest loans to repair damages from the quake, including \$460,700 to businesses.

**Louisa Small Business Administration (SBA)Loans
(As of 1/11/12)**

Applications	Home	Business	Econ. Inj.	Total
Issued	3,167	412	2	3,581
Received	289	21	0	310
Approved	107	7	0	114
Amount	\$1,869,700	\$460,700	\$0	\$2,330,400

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. On December 28, Culpeper and Northampton counties were added.

**Summary of Public Assistance Activity
FEMA 4042 (As of 1/12/12)**

PA Requests	11	Project Worksheets	
Ineligible/Withdrawn	0	Estimated Total	50
Exit Briefs	2	Received	17
Open	9	Pending Obligated	13
Kickoff Meetings	11	Obligated	0
Total Completed	2	Funds	\$0

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. Verification of damages for both Individual and Public Assistance requests in undesignated localities was completed December 22.

The Project Worksheet to repair the heavily damaged Thomas Jefferson Elementary School has been completed and is under review. The worksheet would cover the uninsured portion of the damages incurred from the earthquake.

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. Conduct Individual Assistance Operations and assess unmet survivor needs in newly designated localities.
2. Reach out to disability community to provide survivors needed services.
3. Implement Public Assistance program for newly designated counties through kick-off meetings and applicant briefings.
4. Support Disaster Recovery Center operations in Louisa and Spotsylvania Counties.
5. Inform potential applicants of need to register through effective outreach effort.
6. Coordinate Mitigation, Historic Preservation and Environmental activities.
7. Integrate volunteer agencies into the IA relief process.
8. 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:

- **Participated in a meeting with FEMA, the SBA and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to discuss outreach initiatives and assist owners of historic properties in the affected areas.**
- **Met with FEMA, DHDS Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services regarding the Crisis Counseling and Training Program grant application. Based on discussions it was decided to withdraw the Regular Services Program grant application.**
- A conference call was held Wednesday with the Virginia Department of Health and FEMA to discuss well issues in the affected area.
- A State Housing Task Force meeting met Wednesday.
- Support two Disaster Recovery Centers in Louisa and Spotsylvania counties for the delivery of disaster assistance.
- Drafted combined Individual and Public Assistance add-on request letter for review.
- Requested VHDA to identify housing resources available within a reasonable distance of the impacted area through their housing database.

Public Assistance Supervisor Nealia Dabney:

- Completion of kick-off meetings is expected by January 20.
- Deploy Public Assistance teams covering seven affected local jurisdictions.
- Received 11 requests for Public Assistance.

Individual Assistance Larry Braja:

- A telephone conference call from the JFO was held January 10 with VDEM's state, local, federal and non-profit housing partners. Louisa County is developing a Community Development Block

Grant proposal to submit to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. If successful, Louisa may receive as much as \$700,000 to replace severely damaged housing stock.

- Assess justification for an Individual Assistance appeal for Albemarle and King George counties.
- Develop in coordination with the Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters a strategy to address unmet needs in designated and non-designated localities.
- Respond to inquiries from citizens, businesses and local governments.
- Coordinate response for special needs cases.
- Support DRC operations in Louisa and Spotsylvania counties.

External Affairs Bob Spieldenner:

- Perform CR duties with six teams in declared localities.
- Evaluate issues identified by CR teams for public message.
- 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 Virginia.

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