

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 #83

1600 Hours Wednesday, February 1, 2012
Next SITREP 1600 Hours Friday, February 3, 2012

NOTE: Sitreps for this event will be published Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

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.

The U.S. Geological Survey reported a 3.2 magnitude aftershock struck the Louisa area January 30. It was the sixth tremor in excess of 3.0 magnitude recorded since the 5.8 magnitude earthquake August 23. A total of 55 aftershocks with a magnitude greater than 2.0 have struck the Louisa-Mineral area, including three on January 18.

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 analyzed the seismological cause of the quake and the type and extent of damages. To read the report, go to: www.eqclearinghouse.org/2011-08-23-virginia/files/2011/12/EERI-GEER-DRC-Virginia-eq-report.pdf

FEMA has approved \$13.7 million in assistance for families, individuals, and business owners as of January 29. The amount includes:

- **\$10.4 million in grants under the FEMA Individuals and Household Program.**
- **\$3.3 million in SBA loans for homeowners, renters and business owners.**

IA Registration in Declared Localities (As of 2/01/12)	
Locality	Number
Culpeper	166
Fluvanna	365
Fredericksburg	127
Goochland	303
Louisa	3,919
Orange	236
Spotsylvania	737
Declared total	5,853
Virginia Total	6,102
Percent of All Registrations	96%

Total registrations for FEMA assistance climbed by 132 to 6,102. Traffic at the Louisa and Spotsylvania Disaster Recovery Centers added 63 visitors for a total of 3,567.

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.

**Individual Assistance Daily Summary
(COB 1/31/12)**

Registrations in 7 Designated Localities	5,853	Total Registrations	6,102
Registrations in 53 Undesignated Localities	249		

Individual & Households Program (IHP)

Registration Referrals	5,389	Total \$ Approvals	\$10,436,123
Registrations Approved	4,043	Total \$ Disbursed	\$10,385,554
Eligibility Rate	75%		

Broken Down As:

Housing Assistance (HA)

Registration Referrals	5,372	Total \$ Approved	\$10,390,342
Registrations Approved	3,993	Total \$ Disbursed	\$10,340,195
Eligibility Rate	74%	Average Award	\$2,602

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

Referrals	1,024	Total \$ Approved	\$45,781
Approved	280	Total \$ Disbursed	\$45,360

Inspection Services (IS)

Inspections Requested	5,572	Inspections Outstanding	184
Inspections Performed	5,388		

FEMA granted a 60-day extension of the teleregistration period until March 5 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 an intensive Community Relations initiative.

In today’s IA report, 6,102 individuals from 66 Virginia jurisdictions had called the FEMA teleregistration number to report earthquake damages. The 6,102 total represents 150 percent of the original estimate for registrations. Declared jurisdictions accounted for 124 of the 132 new registrants.

Of the 5,389 referrals from declared localities, 4,043, or 74 percent, have been approved for financial assistance totaling more than \$10.4 million. Thirteen recipients are eligible for the maximum Individual and Households Program grant of \$31,400.

Disaster Recovery Center

Of 3,567 visitors to both DRC locations, 1,504, or 42 percent, registered for disaster assistance; 3,042 were referred to Housing Assistance; 1,427 to SBA for home or business loans; 1,782 to Hazard Mitigation; and 1,377 to volunteer assistance organizations.

**DRC Visitors 2011-12
(As of 1/31/12)**

Location	Daily	2012	2011	2011-12
Louisa	52	1,056	2,131	3,187
Spotsylvania	11	380	0	380
TOTAL	63	1,436	2,131	3,567

**2011-12 DRC Referrals
(As of 1/31/12)**

DRC	Housing	SBA	Mitig.	Vols.
Louisa	2,711	1,200	1,539	1,377
Spotsylvania	331	227	243	0
Total	3,042	1,427	1,782	1,377

Community Relations

Community Relations teams are canvassing the six newly declared jurisdictions to provide information to the public on the availability of Individual Assistance.

Since they began their canvass January 5, the teams have visited 3,300 residences, 969 businesses, 281 faith-based and community organizations, 50 local agencies and 7 schools.

A two-month Louisa County canvass, which ended December 23, shows CR teams visited 10,048

**Home and Business Field Contacts in Newly Declared Localities
(As of 1/31/12)**

Type	Visited	Spoke with	Damaged	Registered
Residences	3,300	1,883	785	236
Businesses	969	961	88	12
Total	4,269	2,844	873	248

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 has approved more than \$3.3 million in low-interest loans to repair damages from the quake, including \$813,300 to businesses. The SBA has issued more than 4,000 individual and 500 business loan applications.

**Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans
(As of 1/31/12)**

Applications	Home	Business	Econ. Inj.	Total
Issued	4,388	521	2	4,911
Received	367	24	0	391
Approved	138	9	0	147
Amount	\$2,513,900	\$813,300	\$0	\$3,327,200

Community Outreach

The of three town hall meetings is scheduled in Fluvanna County for today from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center, 8880 James Madison Highway, Fork Union, VA 23055.

Previous meetings were held in Culpeper and Goochland counties.

Mitigation

Home and business owners may be eligible for assistance to strengthen their structures against future earthquakes similar to the August 23 Louisa event. Three mitigation options are available: rebuild or replace an existing structure; retrofit an entire structure or incrementally retrofit key components. Some steps can be accomplished during scheduled maintenance such as roof or structural wall repair. Virginia building codes set standards for basic building integrity but may need to be strengthened in light of the Louisa event. Information kits are available through the two Disaster Recovery Center and FEMA/VDEM Mitigation booths at four disaster-area Lowe’s stores.

**Mitigation Traffic
(As of 1/31/12)**

Locality	Lowe’s	DRC	Total
Culpeper	601	N/A	601
Fredericksburg	418	N/A	418
Louisa	472	492	964
Spotsylvania	1,087	254	1,341
Total	2,578	746	3,324

Since the Mitigation Outreach program began January 5, a total of 3,324 individuals received information about steps they can take to improve the survivability of their homes in an earthquake. Visitors are encouraged to register for FEMA disaster assistance by March 5 if they experienced damage.

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. 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.

**Summary of Public Assistance Activity
FEMA 4042 (As of 2/01/12)**

PA Requests	16	Project Worksheets	
Ineligible/Withdrawn	1	Estimated Total	91
Kickoff Meetings	11	Received	34
Open	12	\$ Requested	\$50,266,051
Exit Briefs	3	Pending Obligated	17
Total Completed	4	Obligated	9
		\$ Obligated	\$72,027

Funding totaling \$50.3 million has been requested for 34 infrastructure projects that have been submitted. Seventeen are approved and awaiting funding. Nine projects have received final approval for \$72,027 in funding. Completion of 91 pending project worksheets is expected by the end of February.

Repairs to the heavily damaged Thomas Jefferson Elementary School are estimated to cost \$13.7 million, of which \$9.4 million will come from insurance. The Public Assistance Project Worksheet which would cover the uninsured portion of the incurred damages anticipates \$4.3 million in funding.

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:

- **Six members of an EMAC team from Arizona and Louisiana are ending their 30-day deployment. Two have extended their deployment and a replacement has arrived from Oklahoma.**
- **Prepare for anticipated closing of DRCs in Louisa and Spotsylvania February 11, and expected closure of JFO operations February 24.**
- **Await FEMA decision on VDEM appeal for Individual Assistance for Albemarle and King George counties, based on the findings of Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments.**
- Support two Disaster Recovery Centers in Louisa and Spotsylvania counties for the delivery of disaster assistance.
- Requested VHDA to identify housing resources available within a reasonable distance of the impacted area through their housing database.

Public Assistance Supervisor Nealia Dabney:

- Complete processing of anticipated 91 Project Worksheets by the end of February.
- Reallocate Public Assistance teams covering seven affected local jurisdictions.
- Received 16 requests for Public Assistance.

Individual Assistance Larry Braja:

- **Developed a strategy to address unmet needs in designated and non-designated localities in coordination with the Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters. An outreach has begun to solicit case managers to work with Louisa County individuals needing coordination of services. Training is scheduled for February 3-4.**
- **A conference call to review progress on implementing case management services in Louisa County was held today. Participants included local government, the Virginia VOAD, the United Methodists, FEMA and VDEM.**
- **An organizational meeting to form an Unmet Needs Committee in Goochland County is scheduled for February 8.**
- 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:

- 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
Authority of: Michael Cline, State Coordinator
/s/ Brett Burdick, DCCO, or George Roarty, DCCO