

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 #89

1600 Hours Wednesday, February 22, 2012

NOTE: This is the final sitrep for this event unless future developments warrant. The Joint Field Office closes Friday, February 24.

SUMMARY

A 5.8 magnitude earthquake struck Louisa County August 23 and affected nearly half of the state's jurisdictions to some degree. Preliminary exterior damage assessments often missed interior damage to residential structures such as cracked chimneys and foundations because it was hidden from view. Chimneys required thorough inspections using a camera. Wells and septic systems also were difficult to assess.

Some historic structures, such as the Cuckoo House near Mineral, were heavily damaged. The Thomas Jefferson Elementary School was so badly damaged it has to be replaced. Louisa County also has requested replacement of its heavily damaged high school.

The U.S. Geological Survey reported 56 aftershocks of greater than 2.0 magnitude. The latest aftershock hit with a 2.7 magnitude 8 miles south of Louisa on February 19. Tremors of 4.5 magnitude August 25 and 3.2 January 30 were among six in excess of 3.0 magnitude over a five-month period.

Gov. Bob McDonnell declared a state of emergency August 26. FEMA announced a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance for Louisa County November 4. Five amendments to the original declaration reflected the growing number of damage reports both to infrastructure and to homes and businesses in 10 jurisdictions. Other jurisdictions receiving Individual Assistance are Albemarle, Culpeper, Fluvanna, Goochland, King George, Orange and Spotsylvania counties, and the city of Fredericksburg. Receiving Public Assistance are Culpeper, Louisa, Northampton and Spotsylvania counties and the city of Fredericksburg. Albemarle and King George were declared February 1.

Extensive community relations and outreach efforts encouraged residents and businesses to register for Disaster Assistance. In all, CR teams visited 13,923 homes and 1,759 businesses. Residential registrations grew to about 7,500 in the declared jurisdictions.

FEMA has approved \$17.5 million in assistance for families, individuals, and business owners. The amount includes:

IA Registration in Declared Localities (As of 2/21/12)	
Locality	Number
Albemarle	102
Culpeper	248
Fluvanna	622
Fredericksburg	182
Goochland	470
King George	83
Louisa	4,216
Orange	383
Spotsylvania	1,173
Declared total	7,479
Virginia Total	7,859
Percent of All Registrations	96%

- **\$12.9 million in grants under the FEMA Individuals and Household Program.**
- **\$4.6 million in SBA loans for homeowners, renters and business owners.**

Total registrations for FEMA assistance climbed by 88 to 7,859.

When the Louisa and Spotsylvania Disaster Recovery Centers closed on February 11, a total of 4,306 individuals had visited the two locations. The Louisa DRC had 2,131 visitors from November 5 through December 17 and another 1,524 from January 5 until February 11. The Spotsylvania DRC had a total of 651 visitors from January 5 until closure.

The Disaster Recovery Centers in Louisa and Spotsylvania counties closed February 11 and the Joint Field Office in Midlothian is closing February 24. The deadline for individuals and businesses to register for disaster assistance is March 5.

FEMA has obligated \$3.5 million for infrastructure repairs out of \$40.1 million requested under the Public Assistance program. Processing of individual project worksheets is expected to be 95 percent completed by the end of February. The remaining work will be transferred to the Region III headquarters in Philadelphia.

Individual Assistance

After evaluating additional data collected after its initial denial of Individual Assistance for Louisa County, FEMA approved the Commonwealth’s request November 4. Amendments to the original declaration later added six more jurisdictions. On February 1, FEMA granted a VDEM request to declare Albemarle and King George Counties eligible to receive Individual Assistance.

The registration deadline for all localities, including Albemarle and King George counties, is March 5.

**Individual Assistance Daily Summary
(COB 2/21/12)**

Registrations in 9 Designated Localities	7,573	Total Registrations	7,859
Registrations in 53 Undesignated Localities	286		

Individual & Households Program (IHP)

Registration Referrals	6,968	Total \$ Approvals	\$12,971,845
Registrations Approved	5,310	Total \$ Disbursed	\$12,462,170
Eligibility Rate	76%		

Broken Down As:

Housing Assistance (HA)

Registration Referrals	6,948	Total \$ Approved	\$12,915,445
Registrations Approved	5,264	Total \$ Disbursed	\$12,405,747
Eligibility Rate	76%	Average Award	\$2,454

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

Referrals	1,189	Total \$ Approved	\$56,400
Approved	294	Total \$ Disbursed	\$55,424

Inspection Services (IS)

Inspections Requested	7,301	Inspections Outstanding	116
Inspections Performed	7,185		

Even as the number of registrations climbed, the percentage of eligibility remained close to 75%. In today's IA report, 7,859 individuals from 69 Virginia jurisdictions had called the FEMA teleregistration number to report earthquake damages. Declared jurisdictions accounted for 82 of the 82 new registrants.

Of the 6,948 referrals from the 9 declared localities, 5,264, or 76 percent, have been approved for financial assistance of \$12.9 million. Sixteen recipients are eligible for the maximum Individual and Households Program grant of \$31,400.

Disaster Recovery Center

When the Louisa and Spotsylvania Disaster Recovery Centers closed on February 11, a total of 4,379 individuals had visited the two locations. The Louisa DRC had 2,131 visitors from November 5 through December 17 and another 1,573 from January 5 until February 11. The Spotsylvania DRC had a total of 675 visitors from January 5 until closure.

Community Relations

Community Relations teams wrapped up their canvass of nine declared localities affected by the earthquake. The teams visited 13,923 homes, 1,759 businesses, 568 churches and 112 local agencies. The two-month Louisa County canvass ended in December with 10,051 visits to residences, 284 businesses, 244 religious and community organizations, 28 localities and four schools. The canvass, which began in newly declared localities January 5, covered 3,881 homes, 1,544 businesses, 430 faith-based and community organizations, 93 local agencies and 9 schools.

Community Outreach

A total of 45 visitors attended an informational meeting February 16 in King George County, the last of a final series of three outreach efforts. Six registered for assistance at the meeting sponsored by FEMA, VDEM and the SBA.

SBA Loans

The Small Business Administration has approved more than \$4.6 million in low-interest loans to repair damages from the quake, including \$3.8 million to home owners. The SBA has issued 5,781 individual and 652 business loan applications.

**Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans
(As of 2/14/12)**

Applications	Home	Business	Econ. Inj.	Total
Issued	5,781	652	2	6,435
Received	471	90	0	561
Approved	201	9	0	210
Amount	\$3,819,100	\$813,300	\$0	\$4,632,400

**Summary of Public Assistance Activity
FEMA 4042 (As of 2/22/12)**

PA Requests	19	Project Worksheets	
Ineligible/Withdrawn	2	Estimated Total	74
Kickoff Meetings	12	Received	70
Open	4	\$ Requested*	\$40,148,219

Public Assistance

FEMA approved a Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance for Louisa County November 10. FEMA designated Spotsylvania County

Exit Briefs	13	Pending Obligated	30
Total Completed	15	Obligated	22
		\$ Obligated	\$3,509,921

*Revised

November 18 as an add-on for Public Assistance and on December 6, added the city of Fredericksburg. On December 28, Culpeper and Northampton counties were added.

A revised funding total of \$40.1 million has been requested for 70 infrastructure repair projects that have been submitted. Thirty projects are approved and awaiting funding. Twenty-two have received final approval for \$3.5 million in funding. Completion of a revised estimate of 74 project worksheets is expected by the end of February.

Insurance is estimated to cover \$17.5 million of the \$42.9 million in damages to Louisa County High School. FEMA estimates \$25.4 million will be needed to cover uninsured damage to the complex. Repairs to 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, approved February 6, covers the uninsured portion of the damages, set at \$4.3 million.

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.

Deputy Commonwealth Coordinating Officer (DCCO) Brett Burdick

- Coordinate joint activities between the Commonwealth and FEMA.
- Closeout JFO operations.

Operations Section George Roarty:

- Prepare to close Joint Field Office operations February 24.
- Coordinate with FEMA to transition remaining JFO staff to the Trade Court Facility and the Virginia Emergency Operations Center.

Public Assistance Supervisor Nealia Dabney:

- Complete processing of a revised estimate of 74 Project Worksheets by the end of February.
- Transition out of JFO.

Individual Assistance Larry Braja:

- Respond to inquiries from citizens, businesses and local governments.
- Coordinate response for special needs cases.
- Transition out of JFO.

External Affairs Bob Spieldenner:

- 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
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/s/ Brett Burdick, DCCO, or George Roarty, DCCO