



NEWS RELEASE

from

STATE SENATOR

SEAN LOGAN

45th Senatorial District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SENATOR SEAN LOGAN

PHONE: 412-380-2242

www.senatorlogan.com

CONTACT: KEN VARHOLA

PHONE: 412-380-2242

LOGAN: HELP IS AVAILABLE FOR WESTERN PA FLOOD VICTIMS

HARRISBURG, September 16, 2009 – Residents and businesses of western Pennsylvania affected by the June flooding can now apply for low-interest, long-term loans to help recover from the disaster, state Sen. Sean Logan (D-Allegheny/Westmoreland) announced today.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) this week approved Gov. Ed Rendell's request to declare most of western Pennsylvania a disaster area. According to Logan, storm victims in Allegheny, Erie and Westmoreland counties are eligible for assistance.

"The effects of the flooding are not short-term," Logan said. "The loans will be crucial in helping citizens and businesses rebuild after this disaster, so I encourage those who are in need of assistance to apply for one these loans."

Homeowners could be eligible for up to \$200,000 in low-interest loans to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. The SBA allows victims to repair or replace personal property up to \$40,000.

Interest rates are as low as 2.4 percent for homeowners and renters and 4 percent for businesses, with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines the loan amount and terms based on an applicant's financial qualifications.

To obtain a loan application, victims may call the SBA Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955, Monday through Friday. Businesses can visit www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance for downloadable loan applications, while homeowners can apply online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

Logan said SBA customer service representatives will be available to issue and assist with loan applications and to answer questions about the disaster loan program at an outreach center set up in Allegheny County at the Turtle Creek Municipal Building, 125 Monroeville Ave., in Turtle Creek. The center will be open weekdays from now until Sept. 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The filing deadline for physical property damage is Nov. 9, 2009 and the deadline to return economic injury applications is June 9, 2010.

For more information, visit www.pema.state.pa.us and click on "Disaster Assistance."

Logan said he and his district office personnel also stand ready to help citizens obtain information and apply for the assistance.

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