

**Brig. Gen. Torrence Saxe**  
*Commissioner & Adjutant General*

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**Department of Military  
and Veterans Affairs**

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

**STATE OF ALASKA**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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Press Release:

## **Re-inspect, Re-assess, and file for Reconsideration for State Individual Assistance**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF RICHARDSON, ALASKA** - Arctic regions like Southcentral Alaska are unique in that some damages resulting from a winter disaster event, like the 7.1 Cook Inlet Earthquake, won't necessarily be apparent in the winter. In the spring, when the ground begins to thaw, additional damages may be found. Alaskans in the Municipality of Anchorage, Mat-Su Borough, and Kenai Peninsula Borough may be eligible for state and federal assistance that could help them with unmet or newly discovered critical needs that are a result of the Nov. 30 earthquake.

### **Re-inspect**

Re-inspect your home now that the spring thaw has begun. Identify previously undiscovered problem areas by re-inspecting your foundation, and other structurally significant areas for damages. There may be leaks in the foundation walls and floors in places such as basements or crawl spaces that could begin to show signs of leaking after the ground thaws.

Walls and ceilings may suffer from structural damage. Cracks in sheetrock are signs of stress, but cracks in the sheetrock itself don't necessarily mean that the structural integrity of the wall or ceiling has been compromised. However, if you can see light, water, or hear/feel cold air coming through the cracks, this may indicate more serious damage.

### **Re-assess**

Re-assess your critical needs. Are the newly discovered damages to your home affecting your essential needs (food, water, warmth, sanitation, safety)? If so, file for federal assistance and report any new damages found. FEMA's Individual Assistance and/or the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Disaster Home Loan program may be able to help address earthquake damages. To apply for FEMA Individual Assistance go to **[Disasterassistance.gov](http://Disasterassistance.gov)** or call **1-800-621-3362**. To apply for a SBA loan go to **[disasterloan.sba.gov](http://disasterloan.sba.gov)** or call **1-800-659-2955**. The deadline to apply for federal assistance is May 31, 2019.

### **Reconsideration of State Individual Assistance**

The deadline to apply for State of Alaska Individual Assistance was February 28, 2019.

State Individual Assistance (IA) applicants who have received federal aid through FEMA and/or SBA, but still have additional needs, are urged to file for State Individual Assistance Reconsideration. While the deadline for new state IA claims passed on February 28, 2019, applicants can make amendments to their status if new damages are discovered.

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~page 2~

Before requesting reconsideration for State Individual Assistance, an applicant must complete the federal assistance process. This includes submitting an appeal for FEMA Individual Assistance and accepting SBA Disaster Recovery Loans. Once all federal assistance options have been exhausted, State Individual Assistance applicant may apply for reconsideration.

It is important for applicants to file a claim with their insurance company and complete the insurance process.

Federal aid is also available to you in addition to state assistance. If you have not yet filed for federal assistance, please call **1-800-621-3362** or visit **DisaterAssistance.gov**. The deadline for federal assistance has been extended until **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**.

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