



Press Release

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Immediate Release
Contact: Jeremy Zidek, (907) 428-7077

December 22, 2011

43 Days Remain to Register for State Individual Assistance **Deadline February 3, 2012**

FORT RICHARDSON, Alaska –The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) has implemented the State Individual Assistance programs to provide assistance to individuals and families who suffered damages and losses during the 2011 West Coast Storm. The State Tele-registration line is accepting applications for the State Individual Family Grant (IFG) and Temporary Housing programs.

The IA program is available to residents in the North Slope Borough, Northwest Arctic Borough, Bering Straits Regional Education Attendance Area (REAA), Lower Yukon REAA, Lower Kuskokwim REAA, and the Southwest Region REAA. Individual residents or households who sustained damages to their primary residence, personal property, and/or transportation during the 2011 West Coast Storm event are encouraged to apply.

“This storm affected over 40 communities in Western Alaska. We continue to receive calls to the IA hotline, however we are concerned that some eligible individuals and families may not have applied for the State’s Individual Assistance program,” said John Madden, director of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. “I encourage affected individuals in the state designated areas to apply for state Individual Assistance.”

Homeowners with damage to their primary residence should make necessary temporary repairs to prevent additional damage. Applicants should keep receipts for any costs incurred as a result of the storm, and when possible, photograph damages before making repairs or replacement.

Those wanting to apply for State assistance should call DHS&EM at **1-855-445-7131**, Monday through Friday from **9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Applicants will be asked to provide a description of damages, photographs or videos, ownership documents for transportation and real property and insurance information.

Applicants with hearing disabilities should have a representative call 1-855-445-7131 so arrangements can be made to take their applications.

The State deadline to apply for the State’s Individual Assistance programs is **February 3, 2011**.

###