

**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**

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**SITUATION REPORT #80**

**1600 Hours Thursday, January 26, 2012**  
**Next SITREP 1600 Hours Friday, January 27, 2012**

**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 that 54 aftershocks with a magnitude greater than 2.0 had struck the 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. The report, which noted major differences between East Coast and West Coast quakes, looked at the limited ability of the region to deal with the impact of even a moderate earthquake on evacuation, communication and transportation. To read the report, go to: [www.eqclearinghouse.org/2011-08-23-virginia/files/2011/12/EERI-GEER-DRC-Virginia-eq-report.pdf](http://www.eqclearinghouse.org/2011-08-23-virginia/files/2011/12/EERI-GEER-DRC-Virginia-eq-report.pdf)

**FEMA has approved \$12.5 million in assistance for families, individuals, and business owners as of January 25. The amount includes:**

- **\$9.7million in grants under the FEMA Individuals and Household Program.**
- **\$2.8 million in SBA loans for homeowners, renters and business owners.**

<b>IA Registration in Declared Localities (As of 1/25/12)</b>	
<b>Locality</b>	<b>Number</b>
Culpeper	141
Fluvanna	278
Fredericksburg	99
Goochland	225
Louisa	3,783
Orange	201
Spotsylvania	617
<b>Declared total</b>	<b>5,344</b>
<b>Virginia Total</b>	<b>5,567</b>
<b>Percent of All Registrations</b>	<b>96%</b>

**Total registrations with FEMA climbed by 95 on Wednesday to 5,567. Traffic at the Louisa and Spotsylvania Disaster Recovery Centers added 45 visitors for a total of 3,254.**

**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 1/25/12)**

Registrations in 7 Designated Localities	<b>5,344</b>	Total Registrations	<b>5,567</b>
Registrations in 53 Undesignated Localities	<b>223</b>		

Individual & Households Program (IHP)

Registration Referrals	<b>4,932</b>	Total \$ Approvals	<b>\$9,673,244</b>
Registrations Approved	<b>3,670</b>	Total \$ Disbursed	<b>\$9,670,010</b>
Eligibility Rate	<b>74%</b>		

*Broken Down As:*

Housing Assistance (HA)

Registration Referrals	<b>4,915</b>	Total \$ Approved	<b>\$9,629,386</b>
Registrations Approved	<b>3,627</b>	Total \$ Disbursed	<b>\$9,625,994</b>
Eligibility Rate	<b>74%</b>	Average Award	<b>\$2,655</b>

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

Referrals	<b>978</b>	Total \$ Approved	<b>\$43,858</b>
Approved	<b>265</b>	Total \$ Disbursed	<b>\$44,016</b>

Inspection Services (IS)

Inspections Requested	<b>5,106</b>	Inspections Outstanding	<b>224</b>
Inspections Performed	<b>4,882</b>		

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, 5,567 individuals from 63 Virginia jurisdictions had called the FEMA teleregistration number to report earthquake damages. All but one of the 95 new registrants were from the declared jurisdictions.**

**Of the 4,915 referrals from declared localities, 3,627, or 74 percent, have been approved for financial assistance totaling more than \$9.6 million. Thirteen recipients are eligible for the maximum Individual and Households Program grant of \$31,400.**

**Disaster Recovery Center**

**Of 3,254 visitors to both locations, 1,418, or 44 percent, registered for disaster assistance; 2,761 were referred to Housing Assistance, 1,303 to SBA for home or business loans, 1,620 to Hazard Mitigation, and 1,317 to volunteer assistance organizations.**

**DRC Visitors 2011-12  
(As of 1/25/12)**

Location	Daily	2012	2011	2011-12
Louisa	40	825	2,131	2,956
Spotsylvania	12	298	0	298
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>2,131</b>	<b>3,254</b>

**2011-12 DRC Referrals  
(As of 1/25/12)**

DRC	Housing	SBA	Mitig.	Vols.
Louisa	2,497	1,120	1,430	1,305
Spotsylvania	264	183	190	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,761</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>1,305</b>

**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 2,271 residences, 797 businesses, 252 faith-based and community organizations, 37 local agencies and 7 schools.**

The two-month Louisa County canvass, which ended December 23, shows CR teams visited 10,048 residences out of some 12,000 in the county of 30,000. They spoke with 3,506 individuals, of whom

**Home and Business Field Contacts in Newly Declared Localities  
(As of 1/25/12)**

Type	Visited	Spoke with	Damaged	Registered
Residences	2,271	1,476	642	188
Businesses	797	832	76	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,068</b>	<b>2,308</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>200</b>

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 reported that it has approved more than \$2.8 million in low-interest loans to repair damages from the quake, including \$467,500 to businesses.**

**Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans  
(As of 1/25/12)**

Applications	Home	Business	Econ. Inj.	Total
Issued	3,993	497	2	4,492
Received	345	23	0	368
Approved	127	8	0	135
Amount	\$2,353,800	\$467,500	\$0	\$2,821,300

**Community Outreach**

Three town hall meetings have been scheduled in Culpeper, Goochland and Fluvanna counties to give residents and businesses an opportunity to learn more about disaster assistance programs. The sessions will include brief presentations on Individual Assistance, the Small Business Administration disaster loan program, hazard mitigation and historic preservation. Visitors will have an opportunity to clarify any questions they have with the program representatives.

**Eleven individuals attended the first town hall meeting, held Tuesday evening in Culpeper. Eight of them registered. One household may qualify for tax breaks as an historic structure. A business may qualify for an Economic Injury loan through SBA.**

**The schedule:**

- **Goochland: Today, 7 - 9 p.m., Board of Supervisors Room,1800 Sandy Hook Road, Goochland, Va., 23063**
- Fluvanna: February 1, 7 - 9 p.m., Carysbrook Performing Arts Center, 8880 James Madison Highway, Fork Union, VA 23055

**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.

**Since the Mitigation Outreach program began January 5, a total of 2,529 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.**

**Mitigation Traffic  
(As of 1/25/12)**

Locality	Lowe’s	DRC	Total
Culpeper	447	N/A	447
Fredericksburg	212	N/A	212
Louisa	358	385	743
Spotsylvania	929	198	1127
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,946</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>2,529</b>

**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 1/26/12)**

PA Requests	<b>16</b>	Project Worksheets	
Ineligible/Withdrawn	<b>0</b>	Estimated Total	<b>91</b>
Exit Briefs	<b>2</b>	Received	<b>28</b>
Open	<b>14</b>	Pending Obligated	<b>13</b>
Kickoff Meetings	<b>11</b>	Obligated	<b>4</b>
Total Completed	<b>2</b>	\$ Disbursed	<b>\$0</b>

**Funding totaling \$5.5 million has been committed for four infrastructure projects. Thirteen others are approved and awaiting funding.**

**Ninety-one project worksheets are anticipated. Twenty-eight worksheets have been submitted and are awaiting review.**

**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 has an anticipated \$4.3 million in funding. has been completed and is under review. The worksheet would cover the uninsured portion of the damages incurred from the earthquake.**

**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:

- **Submit appeal for Individual Assistance for Albemarle and King George counties, based on the findings of Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments approved by FEMA.**
- Transition eight-member EMAC team from Arizona and Louisiana at the end of their 30-day deployment and bring in a replacement individual from Oklahoma.
- Prepare for anticipated closing of DRCs in Louisa and Spotsylvania February 11, and expected closure of JFO operations March 2.
- Support two Disaster Recovery Centers in Louisa and Spotsylvania counties for the delivery of disaster assistance.
- Drafted combined Individual and Public Assistance add-on request letter for review.
- Requested VHDA to identify housing resources available within a reasonable distance of the impacted area through their housing database.

Public Assistance Supervisor Nealia Dabney:

- **Process anticipated 91 Project Worksheets.**
- Reallocate Public Assistance teams covering seven affected local jurisdictions.
- Received 16 requests for Public Assistance.

Individual Assistance Larry Braja:

- Attended State Housing Task Force Meeting for updates on:
  - Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments for Albemarle and King George counties.
  - Town hall meetings for Culpeper, Goochland and Fluvanna counties.
  - Housing challenges and anticipated resource requirements for damaged wells and chimneys, and historic properties.
  - State and voluntary resources for unmet needs.
- Attended organizational meeting for Disaster Behavioral Health Services Committee.
- Develop in coordination with the Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters a strategy to address unmet needs in designated and non-designated localities.
- 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  
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/s/ Brett Burdick, DCCO, or George Roarty, DCCO