FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION APPROVES DISASTER LOAN PROGRAMS FOR RESIDENTS IN BROWARD COUNTY IMPACTED BY SEVERE WEATHER AND TORNADOES

TALLAHASSEE - Governor Rick Scott announced today that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved his October 25, 2011 request for a Physical Disaster Declaration to aid Broward County residents impacted by the severe weather and tornado event on October 18. This declaration makes available low-interest disaster loans to eligible affected households and businesses in Broward County and the neighboring counties of Collier, Hendry, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach.

“I am grateful to Administrator Mills, Director Skaggs and our federal partners at the SBA for granting this critical disaster assistance,” said Governor Scott. “These low-interest loans are an excellent resource to help residents recover from the damaging severe weather that impacted these communities.”

Under this declaration, qualified residents may be eligible for home and/or business disaster loans to repair or replace disaster-damaged real estate or property. This declaration makes available the SBA’s Home Disaster Loan, Business Physical Disaster Loan, and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) programs to homeowners, renters, and eligible small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of any size. For more information please see the attached Fact Sheet.

Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition. Loan applications for physical damage can be filed until the close of business on December 27, 2011 and economic injury applications can be filed until the close of business on July 27, 2012.

For more information, contact SBA’s Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Applicants may also apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure Web site at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela

For more information on the Florida Division of Emergency Management and to GET A PLAN!, please visit: www.FloridaDisaster.org. Follow us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/FloridaSERT and on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/FLSERT.

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