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www.FloridaDisaster.org

GOVERNOR SCOTT’S FLORIDA FAMILIES FIRST BUDGET FUNDS
$254 MILLION IN FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
~Local merit funding tops emergency management budget priorities~

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Scott’s Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget fully funds the Florida Division of Emergency Management’s (FDEM) priorities for financial assistance to state and local governments for public awareness, outreach programs, floods and disaster mitigation programs.

The Governor’s recommendation for FDEM’s budget is $254 million, of which $16 million is General Revenue. FDEM’s budget includes an increase over current year by $28 million. The increase is directly proportionate to the projected costs of Tropical Storm Debby that hit Florida in 2012. The budget funds the following:

- $188.9M Federally Declared Disasters, $16 million is General Revenue
- $4M Repetitive Flood Claims the Severe Repetitive Loss Program
- $7.2M Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program
- $6M Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
- $14.8M Emergency Management Performance Grant
- $3M Hurricane Shelter Retrofits

“By continuing to fund the Florida Division of Emergency Management, the Florida Legislature can help ensure Florida is prepared to respond to, recover from and mitigate against natural and man-made disasters,” said Director Koon. “Enhancing the funding provided to local emergency managers is an enhancement to Florida’s current ability to respond and an investment in preparedness for the future.”

Governor Scott also provided funds to assist county emergency management programs to become accredited through the National Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). Each county that receives accreditation will receive an increase in the amount of their annual base grant award used to maintain county emergency management programs. EMAP accreditation will assist the counties to implement the highest standards of emergency management practices to protect their businesses, infrastructure, citizens and visitors during natural and man-made disasters. The Emergency Management Accreditation Program is a national, nonprofit organization that published emergency management standards. Additional funding through the satisfaction of certain EMAP criteria will not impact a county’s base funding through current procedures.

“EMAP is the only nationally recognized certification in emergency management that an office can obtain and every emergency management agency should strive to meet those standards,” said Tom Cisco, Emergency Management Director for Madison County,
Florida. “Receiving additional funding based on the accreditation will not only help maintain it, but will also be beneficial for new programs and initiatives.”

Learn more about Governor Scott’s Florida Families First budget at www.floridafamiliesfirst.com. To learn more about the Florida Division of Emergency Management and to Get A Plan!, visit www.FloridaDisaster.org, www.KidsGetAPlan.com and follow FDEM on Twitter at @FLSERT, on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/FloridaSERT and on Google+ at FLSERT.

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