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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VILLAGE BOARD

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Frank Soto

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Bensenville Approved For Federal Flood Relief

Bensenville, IL –President Barack Obama signed a Disaster Declaration for Illinois that will make available federal assistance to help people and businesses in 11 Illinois counties, including Bensenville, recover from historic flooding in mid-April.

The federal disaster declaration makes assistance available to flood victims, including grants to individuals and households to help with temporary housing, home repairs or replacement and other disaster-related expenses, as well as low-interest SBA loans to residents and businesses.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which administers the assistance program, has a toll-free telephone number 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY for hearing and speech impaired) for victims to apply for assistance. See the attached flyer from FEMA for more information.

Registration can also be done online at www.disasterassistance.gov. There is a simple anonymous 11 item questionnaire that can be completed to obtain the most accurate list of assistance programs for which you may be eligible.

"I want to commend all of the residents and business who took the time and effort to report their losses to the Village, County, and FEMA. It is this kind of collaborative effort that helped secure federal relief." said Village President Frank Soto

There are detailed instructions on the Village website at www.bensenville.il.us to help assist residents and businesses applying for assistance or for further information please contact the Bensenville Emergency Management Agency at 630-350-3461.

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About Bensenville: Bensenville, Illinois is a friendly village of more than 18,500 residents that provides exceptional benefits whether you live here, work here or play here. In 2011 Bensenville was named the #2 "Best Place to Raise Kids" in Illinois by MSN Real Estate & Bloomberg BusinessWeek. Bensenville is conveniently located just 20 miles west of downtown Chicago in DuPage County, adjacent to O'Hare International Airport, surrounded by major expressways, and boasts several public transportation options including a Metra train station. Residents enjoy a thriving Downtown and commercial corridors with a variety of shopping and dining options, and beautiful parks such as the Redmond Recreational Complex featuring The Edge Ice Arenas. Our over 1,000-acre Northern Business District includes many Fortune 500 companies. In addition, Bensenville is home to Robert Morris University, White Pines Golf Course, Fenton High School, an outstanding public library, and two newly constructed grammar schools. With plenty to offer both families and businesses, Bensenville really is the "Gateway to Opportunity". Please visit our website at www.bensenville.il.us.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE?



Apply at www.DisasterAssistance.gov



Call **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**



Help is available in most languages



The TTY number is **1-800-462-7585**

When you apply we will ask for the following information:

- The address of your damaged home or apartment
- Names of people living in your household
- A description of your disaster damages
- Insurance information
- Your Social Security Number
- A telephone number where we can reach you or leave a message
- An address where you can get mail
- If you want your disaster assistance funds sent directly to your bank, provide the FEMA agent:
 - **your bank account type**
 - **account number**
 - **routing number**

When you apply, you will be given a FEMA application number. Write down your application number and save it for future reference. You will need the application number whenever you contact FEMA.

Insurance is essential in any recovery process. If you've been affected by the disaster, make sure you call your insurance company and file a claim. Only damages that are not covered by insurance can qualify for FEMA disaster assistance. By law we can not duplicate benefits.

If you move after applying for assistance, be sure to let FEMA know your new address and telephone number(s). This will ensure that all disaster awards get to you without delay.

IMPORTANT:

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status.

As part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the organization that acts as coordinator of disaster recovery efforts. FEMA partners with local, state and other federal agencies to help those who are affected by federally declared disasters and who qualify for temporary financial and/or direct assistance. FEMA's Individual & Households Program is one of many elements that may be available for recovery support.



FEMA

Prepared. Responsive. Committed.

www.fema.gov

1-800-621-3362 or hearing-impaired 1-800-462-7585