



# BILL NELSON

*Representing Florida*

Dear Floridians,

Hurricane Irma was one of the most powerful storms ever recorded, prompting one of the largest evacuations in U.S. history.

This massive storm affected every part of our state. And as we now begin the process of cleaning up and rebuilding, I encourage every Floridian affected by this storm to apply for assistance with FEMA as soon as possible. You may be eligible for financial help or even direct assistance for things such as: clean-up, temporary housing, medical, moving expenses and more.

If you're eligible, it's important that you get your FEMA claim in as soon as possible, *without delay*.

To apply for FEMA assistance visit: [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) or call 1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362) TTY: 1-800-462-7585.

Please take a few minutes to review the information provided below. You may be eligible for other temporary assistance and benefits.

As I travel around our state, I am heartened by the stories I am hearing over and over again of Floridians helping Floridians. And I encourage you to share this information with your friends and neighbors as we work together to rebuild our state.

If you need any additional help, please don't hesitate to contact our office by e-mail at: [IrmaAssistance@billnelson.senate.gov](mailto:IrmaAssistance@billnelson.senate.gov), by phone toll free in Florida at 1-888-671-4091, or by stopping by one of our regional offices listed below.

Sincerely,

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

If you need emergency help call 9-1-1.

## HELP FOR SENIORS

If you know of a senior who needs assistance call 9-1-1 and contact the Florida Department of Elder Affairs hotline at 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337). To report elder abuse, call 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873).

## BASIC SUPPLIES

If you need supplies, such as food, water, or ice, please contact your county emergency management at: [http://www.floridadisaster.org/fl\\_county\\_em.asp](http://www.floridadisaster.org/fl_county_em.asp) or by phone at (850) 815-4001 for



the location of the nearest distribution center. Your county emergency management can provide up-to-date information about shelters and local distribution centers for food and supplies.

### **FEMA ASSISTANCE**

Floridians affected by Hurricane Irma should apply for assistance with FEMA as soon as their county is granted Individual Assistance. Financial help and direct services may be available from FEMA for clean-up, temporary housing, medical, moving expenses, and more.

To apply visit: [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) or call 1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362) TTY: 1-800-462-7585. For a list of counties approved for Individual Assistance visit: <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4337#>.

### **HELP FOR VETERANS**

Veterans needing assistance or medication can contact the Veteran Disaster Hotline at 1-800-507-4571 or go to any VA medical facility for assistance.

### **DIALYSIS**

To find a dialysis center in your area visit: <http://www.dialysisunits.com/>. Patients of DaVita Dialysis may contact 1-800-400-8331 to find the nearest Dialysis Center.

### **MENTAL HEALTH**

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional distress please call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746 to connect with a trained counselor. You may also visit: <http://bit.ly/2vH2Huc> for more information about managing stress after a disaster and talking with children about traumatic events.

### **TAX RELIEF**

Floridians in counties granted Individual Assistance may be eligible for tax relief from the IRS. To learn more about IRS assistance for victims of Hurricane Irma visit: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/help-for-victims-of-hurricane-irma>.

### **DISASTER RECOVERY LOANS**

The U.S. Small Business Administration is providing various disaster loans to qualifying Floridians in several counties. For more information about SBA disaster loans visit: <https://www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance/hurricane-irma>.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides loans and assistance to qualifying individuals, businesses, and communities after disasters. For more information visit: <https://www.usda.gov/topics/disaster/storms>, or contact the USDA office in Florida at: (352) 338-3400.

### **DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE**

Floridians who are unemployed as a result of the disaster are encouraged to apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) through the U.S. Department of Labor. For additional information about DUA visit: <https://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/disaster.asp> or contact the U.S. Department of Labor by phone at 1-866-487-2365.

### **MORTGAGE RELIEF**

To find out if you qualify for temporary mortgage relief such as a suspension of mortgage payments for up to 12 months, or suspension of late fees, visit the Freddie Mac website at: <http://www.freddiemac.com/about/hurricane-relief.html>. For additional information visit the Fannie Mae website at: <http://www.fanniemae.com/portal/about-fm/hurricane-relief.html> or by phone at 1-800-2FANNIE (800-232-6643).

## **HURRICANE RESPONSE HIRING**

The U.S. Small Business Administration is hiring a variety of temporary positions located throughout Florida now through December 31, 2017. For more information visit: <https://www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance/hurricane-response-jobs-sba#section-header-4>

## **ADDITION ASSISTANCE**

For in-person assistance with storm related questions, or to apply for benefits you may visit your local FEMA Disaster Recovery Center. For a list of Centers in your area visit: <http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm>

## **BILL NELSON OFFICES IN FLORIDA**

### **Broward**

3416 South University Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328  
Phone: 954-693-4851

### **Ft. Myers**

2000 Main Street  
Suite 801  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
Phone: 239-334-7760

### **Jacksonville**

1301 Riverplace Blvd.  
Suite 2010  
Jacksonville, FL 32207  
Phone: 904-346-4500

### **Miami-Dade**

2555 Ponce De Leon Boulevard  
Suite 610  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
Phone: 305-536-5999

### **Orlando**

225 East Robinson Street  
Suite 410  
Orlando, FL 32801  
Phone: 407-872-7161

### **Tallahassee**

111 North Adams Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
Phone: 850-942-8415

### **Tampa**

801 N. Florida Ave.  
4th Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Phone: 813-225-7040

### **West Palm Beach**

413 Clematis Street

Suite 210  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
Phone: 561-514-0189



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