



FEMA DIRECTOR

Joe M. Allbaugh

The horrific terrorist attacks on Sept. 11 claimed thousands of lives and caused massive devastation. My heart goes out to all who were affected. Be assured that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), along with other federal, local and voluntary agencies will be here to help you through your recovery.

President Bush signed a disaster declaration on the day of the attack and directed me to ensure all federal resources are available. FEMA staff is working around the clock facilitating and coordinating the federal assistance in this recovery effort.

In addition, individuals and businesses that were impacted by the terrorist attacks can apply for a wide variety of benefits and assistance from FEMA, the Department of Justice and other federal and state agencies by calling the telephone numbers listed in this publication.

Just as all Americans grieve and sympathize with the people from the New York/New Jersey metro area in this tragedy, citizens around the country also share their spirit to pull through this. Recovery will be a long process and a lot of work, but we will be here to support and assist you.

May God bless you and your families as you continue on the road to recovery.



ACTING GOVERNOR

Donald T. DiFrancesco

This is a time of deep sorrow and great challenge. In Pennsylvania, at the Pentagon, and most horrifically in New York City, American blood was spilled in a deliberate act of terror.

In this national crisis, the toll on New Jersey has been severe. At least 600 New Jerseyans were killed. Scores were injured, some critically. Thousands more no longer have a workplace or job.

I am proud of the work of my Cabinet, the New Jersey Legislature and our congressional delegation. We have set up an Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance, created a family helpline and established a Family Assistance Center at Liberty State Park.

Local police, state troopers, the FBI, the National Guard and other law enforcement professionals are working day and night all over the state. In addition, the Office of Emergency Management continues to do its job, and do it well.

We have benefited tremendously from FEMA's leadership and from the federal assistance we have received.

The bottom line is we will not live in fear. We will improve our readiness and make New Jersey safer. I am proud to be a New Jerseyan and proud of the way our people have responded to this crisis. We will recover.

Unemployed because of the disaster?

Your business has been destroyed. You no longer have a job or income. What do you do?

The federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance program may provide you with a weekly check if you have become unemployed or have suffered a loss of income due to the disaster. The program is designed to help the self-employed and others not normally eligible for unemployment insurance.

What is the first thing I need to do?

Call the state/federal toll-free application number **800-462-9029 (TTY 800-462-7585)** for the speech- and hearing-impaired).

Who will process my application?

Department of Labor representatives at the Family Assistance Center in Liberty State Park will help you file New Jersey unemployment claims. Or you can call toll-free **888-209-8124** and an employment security representative will determine whether your circumstances warrant a regular unemployment claim or a disaster unemployment claim. The appropriate forms will then be sent to you.

How often are payments made?

Disaster unemployment assistance can provide weekly benefits for up to 26 weeks following the date of the declaration of the disaster.

How do I know if I am eligible for benefits?

You may be if you are:

- out of work as a result of the disaster;
- self employed or a migrant/seasonal worker with income substantially affected due to the disaster;
- an employee not covered by any other unemployment compensation;
- a survivor who, as a result of the disaster, becomes head of household.

Is disaster unemployment assistance the only way to get help?

You may be eligible for other disaster assistance programs. To find out, call **800-462-9029 (TTY: 800-462-7585)** for the speech and hearing-impaired).