



September 25, 2017

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY BRIDGE LOAN PROGRAM – Gov. Rick Scott has activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program to provide short-term, interest-free loans to businesses damaged by Hurricane Irma. Administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in partnership with the Florida SBDC Network, the program helps businesses bridge the gap between the time damage is incurred and when a business secures other financial resources, including payment of insurance claims or longer-term Small Business Administration loans. Eligible small businesses with two to 100 employees may apply for short-term, interest-free loans for \$1,000 to \$25,000 for 90- or 180-day terms. To be eligible, a business must have been established before Sept. 4, 2017, and demonstrate economic injury or physical damage as a result of Hurricane Irma. Applications will be accepted through Oct. 31, 2017, contingent on fund availability. Visit <http://www.floridadisasterloan.org> for full details.

SBA BUSINESS PHYSICAL DISASTER LOAN PROGRAM – Business owners in Volusia County are eligible to apply for U.S. Small Business Administration Business Physical Disaster Loans. These low-interest loans are intended to help repair or replace disaster-damaged property. Businesses and nonprofit organizations may apply for up to \$2 million to repair or replace property, including real estate, equipment, inventory, machinery and other business assets. To apply for physical and economic injury loans, businesses must first register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at www.disasterassistance.gov or call the toll-free helpline at 800-621-3362. The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is Nov. 9, 2017. For questions, contact the Florida SBDC Network at 850-898-3489 or Disaster@FloridaSBDC.org. The phone line is answered during regular business hours; all voice mails and emails will be responded to within 24 hours.

SBA ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOAN PROGRAM – Federal emergency assistance has been activated due to the impacts of Hurricane Irma. Volusia County businesses can apply to determine if they qualify for U.S. Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs). If you have suffered substantial economic injury, regardless of physical damage, and you are a small business, small agricultural cooperative or a private nonprofit organization, you may qualify for an EIDL. EIDLs provide working capital to help businesses survive until normal operations resume after a disaster. SBA can provide up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses. The deadline to return economic injury applications is June 11, 2018. For more information, go to <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Information/EIDLLoans>.

DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE – Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is available to eligible Volusia County businesses and residents whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted by Hurricane Irma. DUA eligibility information is available in the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) press release at <http://tinyurl.com/y85f8kvo>. Individuals affected in Volusia County must file by Oct. 16, 2017. Claimants will be asked about potential impacts from recent disasters when filing for standard re-employment assistance benefits. DUA is available from the weeks of unemployment beginning Sept. 10, 2017, to March 17, 2018, as long as an individual's unemployment continues to be a result of the disaster. To file a claim, go to www.floridajobs.org or call 800-385-3920. For DUA claims information, call 800-204-2418 and choose option 2 to speak to a customer service representative.

VMA MANUFACTURERS SHOWCASE MOVES TO SEPT. 29 – Hurricane Irma impacts have required rescheduling VMA's We Make It Here! 11th Annual Manufacturers Showcase to Sept. 29. Showcase hours are from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's ICI Center, Daytona Beach. For more information, visit www.VMAonline.com and click on the showcase icon.

VOLUSIA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MOBILE APP – The Volusia County Emergency Management mobile app contains advanced features that help keep Volusia County residents prepared and informed about emergencies. The home screen provides information through social media posts, push notifications and news blogs. You can also submit damage reports and access Emergency Management's social media pages. The map feature contains a weather radar, emergency shelter information, evacuation zones, and evacuation routes for Volusia County. For more details and to download the app, go to www.volusia.org/emergency-app.

DIGITAL AUDIO PRODUCTION ACADEMY – This academy at Atlantic High School enhances students' skills as musicians, either instrumentally or vocally, through the exploration of studio recording techniques that are used throughout the world. Partnerships with BCU and DSC students provide hands-on experiences in recording arts. Contact Director Jeremy Blackwell at nblackw@volusia.k12.fl.us.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information director, at jmagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.