



# Marin County Sheriff Office of Emergency Services

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## County Coordinates Efforts to Help Residents and Businesses Apply for Federal Assistance

**For Immediate Release**

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San Rafael – Following last Friday’s federal disaster declaration, the County of Marin is coordinating with cities and towns to help residents and businesses impacted by the New Year’s winter storm obtain needed federal assistance. This coordination includes opening a temporary Local Assistance Center (LAC) beginning this Thursday, February 9 in San Anselmo at the Kaufman Building located at 241 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard (pending a final review by FEMA staff). The LAC will remain open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through Sunday, February 12. Representatives from federal, state, and local agencies will be present to provide information about available assistance (such as low-interest loans) and take applications.

“The County is being proactive to help set up a Local Assistance Center and to ensure that local residents and businesses have access to federal, state, and local assistance,” said Supervisor Hal Brown, who represents the Ross Valley on the Board of Supervisors. “In addition to the center, we encourage residents and businesses impacted by the storm to register for assistance over the phone or through the FEMA website.”

Affected residents are encouraged to begin the FEMA application process by registering online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). The hearing and speech

impaired can call 1-800-462-7585 (TTY). The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. seven days a week. Applicants registering for aid should be prepared to provide basic information about themselves, insurance coverage, and any other information to help substantiate losses. Affected businesses can request disaster loans by contacting the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) toll-free at 1-800-659-2955.

In addition to registering online or over the phone, residents and businesses can apply for assistance in person at the Local Assistance Center. FEMA, SBA, and other federal and state agencies will be present and provide information about available assistance, which may include low-interest loans for residential and small business losses not covered by insurance and rental payments for temporary housing for those whose homes are unlivable. Local officials from San Anselmo, Fairfax, Ross, and other jurisdictions (including the County) will also be present to answer questions and provide information about local services.

The public can also contact the County's Storm Recovery Information Hotline (415-473-5614) to answer additional questions about the storm recovery efforts. The County's website includes a variety of storm recovery information, including links to federal, state, and local resources, answers to frequently asked questions, press releases, and other items. To access the website, click on "Storm Recovery Information" on the County's homepage ([www.co.marin.ca.us](http://www.co.marin.ca.us)).