

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 7, 2017

President Donald J. Trump Approves U.S. Virgin Islands Disaster Declaration

Today, President Donald J. Trump declared that a major disaster exists in the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands and ordered Federal aid to supplement recovery efforts in the territory due to Hurricane Irma beginning on September 6, 2017, and continuing.

The President's action makes Federal funding available to affected individuals in the islands of St. John and St. Thomas.

Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.

Federal funding is available to the territory and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work in all of the islands in the territory.

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures throughout the territory.

Brock Long, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security, named William L. Vogel as the Federal Coordinating Officer for Federal recovery operations in the affected areas.

Damage assessments are continuing in other areas, and additional areas may be designated for assistance after the assessments are fully completed.

Residents and business owners who have sustained losses in the designated areas can begin applying for assistance tomorrow by registering online at <http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov>

Home | DisasterAssistance.gov | Access to Disaster Help ...
www.disasterassistance.gov

To find help for your immediate needs, please enter an address to get a list of the closest FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), starting with the closest three.

or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA(3362), or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time) seven days a week until further notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION MEDIA SHOULD CONTACT THE FEMA NEWS DESK
AT (202) 646-3272 OR FEMA-NEWS-DESK@FEMA.DHS.GOV.

###