



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

September 2, 2014

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 206.36, I request that you declare a major disaster for the State of California as a result of the South Napa Earthquake that affected Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties.

The earthquake occurred on Sunday, August 24, 2014, at 3:20 a.m. Pacific Standard Time. The earthquake struck three miles northwest of the City of American Canyon in Napa County, California and measured 6.0 on the Richter magnitude scale. The United States Geological Survey suspects that the earthquake struck along the West Napa Fault. The shaking intensity in the region was VII on the Modified Mercalli Scale. To date, the region has experienced over 120 aftershocks with magnitudes up to 3.9 on the Richter scale. Although no deaths were reported, more than 280 people sustained injuries and three people remain in critical condition.

Pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Government Code, I declared a State of Emergency for Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties on August 24, 2014. Later that day, Napa County, Solano County, and the cities of Napa and Vallejo activated their emergency operations centers and proclaimed local emergencies. On August 26, 2014, the City of American Canyon also proclaimed a local emergency. On August 30, 2014, Sonoma County proclaimed a local emergency as well.

My administration immediately deployed all necessary state and local government emergency mutual aid, including firefighting, law enforcement, medical, and public health emergency responders. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services activated the State Operations Center, our coastal Regional Emergency Operations Center, and implemented the State's Emergency Operations Plan. Today, I issued Executive Order B-24-14 authorizing financial

assistance through the California Disaster Assistance Act to local agencies and certain nonprofit organizations.

Economic impacts of this event will be extensive. The earthquake caused significant damage throughout the region. While significant damage resulted from this event, including \$87 million in costs that is eligible for federal reimbursement, the final cost estimates are unknown at this time. The damage to buildings, particularly in historic downtown Napa, are affecting tourism and impacting local businesses. Because many of the buildings damaged by this earthquake have historic significance, the debris is being contained in place in order to ensure it is available for the restoration of those historic facilities. Repairing and reconstructing these structures will require careful design and construction methods not typical of more modern structures. In addition, all rebuilding must adhere to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Structures.

Critical infrastructure has also been damaged including power lines, gas lines, and water mains. The control tower at the Napa County Airport was also damaged, which required the use of a Federal Aviation Administration temporary tower. Four emergency shelters were opened in Napa and Solano Counties, two of which remain open today and are housing 53 individuals. The American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster continue to provide support to the community, and are supplying food and drinking water to more than 2,000 individuals.

While joint federal, state, and local Preliminary Damage Assessments were conducted in Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties for both individual and public assistance programs, it is extremely common for earthquakes to cause hidden damage that is not immediately apparent. Limited access to certain damaged infrastructure and buildings means that our joint assessment teams were only able to see part of the damage caused by the earthquake. Once jurisdictions are able to conduct detailed structural investigations of buildings, including assessing the viability of underground water and wastewater lines, the amount of actual damages is expected to increase. This earthquake followed a series of severe fires this spring and summer and occurred amidst a severe statewide drought, all of which have severely impacted California's resources. In the past 12 months, 17 major fires have burned in California. One fire received a major disaster declaration, 15 fires received Fire Management Assistance Grants, and one fire received a state level disaster declaration. In addition, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection reports more than 4,200 fire starts this year, requiring several hundred million dollars in fire suppression costs to date for 2014. California is also experiencing a historic drought currently in its third year, and state government has authorized \$678 million dollars in emergency funding to state agencies and departments for drought response and relief efforts.

### **Individual Assistance**

The California Department of Insurance indicates that less than five percent of homeowners and businesses in the region have earthquake insurance. A breakdown of Individual Assistance Program demographics is presented directly below:

	Average of Persons Below Poverty Level	Median Household Income	Percent Elderly (over 65 yrs of age)	Percent Disabled	Percent Pre-Disaster Unemployment
National Average	14.9%	\$53,046	13.1%	12.2%	9.3%
State Average	15.3%	\$61,400	11.5%	10.2%	11%
Napa	10%	\$69,571	16.5%	17.3%	5%
Solano	11.9%	\$69,006	13%	9.4%	7%
Sonoma	11.5%	\$63,565	16%	10.5%	5.3%

*This data has been compiled from the following sources: The 2010 Census, The American Community Survey, Rural Research and Training Institute on Disabilities in, Rural Communities, University of Montana, State and County Quickfacts, U.S. Census, U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics, and Pascenter.org.*

### **Public Assistance**

The earthquake caused major destruction to historic and essential facilities including, roads, bridges, and utilities. The preliminary damage assessment places total earthquake costs eligible for federal reimbursement above \$87 million. The majority of these costs include emergency response measures and repair of roads and bridges, public buildings, and public utilities. Napa County experienced damage that equates to a per capita impact of \$598.48, while Solano County experienced a per capita impact of \$11.90, both exceeding the federal \$3.50 per capita threshold.

The County of Napa and the City of Napa have earthquake insurance for some of their public infrastructure and buildings, and all potential insurance proceeds have been deducted from the overall damage estimate. The County of Solano is still evaluating their insurance coverage; however, we believe it is negligible.

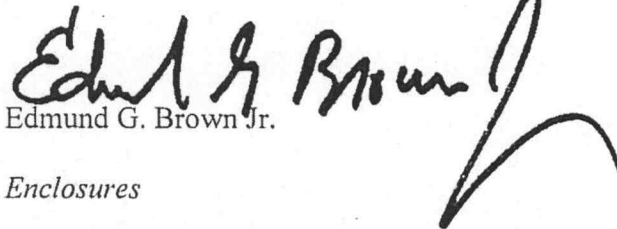
This incident is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments, and supplemental federal assistance is necessary. I request: Individual Assistance for Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties (including the Individuals and Households Program, Disaster Case Management, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling and Disaster Legal Services); Public Assistance for Napa and Solano Counties (Categories A-G); Hazard Mitigation statewide; and any other Stafford Act disaster assistance programs that may be appropriate for the three declared counties. I am also requesting U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans and funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Emergency Loan Program.

I certify that for this major disaster the State and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal shared costs as required by the Stafford Act. I have designated the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Mark Ghilarducci, as the State Coordinating Officer for

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this request. Mr. Ghilarducci will work with FEMA in order to continue to assess the damage from this earthquake and can provide more information or justification for this request on my behalf.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.

*Enclosures*

## ENCLOSURE A TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Requirements for Individual Assistance

Under the Stafford Act

Individual Assistance Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment Cost Estimate Worksheet

Counties	Agency	Business Unit Damage			Residential Unit Damage				
		MJ	MR	TOTAL	D	MJ	MR/AF	TOTAL D/MJ	TOTAL
Napa	OES								
	FEMA				15	61	216	76	292
	SBA	26	59	85		41	204	41	245
Solano	OES								
	FEMA						88	2	90
	SBA		58	58		2	36		36
Sonoma	OES								
	FEMA								
	SBA		14	14					
TOTALS - OES									
TOTALS - FEMA					15	63	347	78	425
TOTALS - SBA		26	131	157		41	283	41	324

D = Destroyed    MJ = Major Damage    MR = Minor Damage    AF = Affected

Note: This PDA was completed with joint OES, FEMA, and SBA Teams.

Business Unit Damage, category Major Damage (MJ) includes MJ-PNPs.

## ENCLOSURE B TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

### Estimated Stafford Act Requirements for Public Assistance

#### Public Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Cost Estimate Summary

COUNTY	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	PDA Total	\$ per Capita	75%
SOLANO	\$ -	\$165,243	\$ -	\$ -	\$4,112,000	\$ 640,000	\$ -	\$ 4,917,243	\$11.90	\$3,687,932
NAPA	\$580,000	\$1,711,700	\$8,834,700	\$ -	\$62,067,962	\$8,359,950	\$129,000	\$81,583,312	\$598.48	\$61,262,484
SONOMA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$275,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$275,000	\$0.57	\$206,250
SUBTOTAL	\$580,000	\$1,876,943	\$8,834,700	\$ -	\$66,454,962	\$8,999,950	\$129,000	\$88,875,555		
STATE AGENCIES	\$ -	\$444,332	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$444,332		\$333,249
TOTAL	\$580,000	\$2,321,275	\$8,834,700	\$ -	\$66,454,962	\$8,999,950	\$129,000	\$87,319,887	\$2.34	\$65,489,915
Category %	0.53%	2.11%	8.04%	0.00%	81.02%	8.19%	0.12%			

As of 8/31/14

**ENCLOSURE C TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST**

Estimated Assistance from Other Federal Agency Programs

County	SBA Home Loans	SBA Business Loans	FSA Loans	NRCS	FHWA	USACE	BIA	OTHER
Solano	\$ 300,000	\$700,000	TBD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Napa	\$2,000,000	\$1,100,000	TBD	\$ -	\$5,365,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sonoma	\$310,000	\$170,000	TBD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$2,610,000	\$1,970,000	TBD	\$ -	\$5,365,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -