



VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

**REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION
GOVERNOR'S REQUEST COVER LETTER
MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY**

October 28, 2012

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Through: Regional Administrator MaryAnn Tierney
FEMA Region III
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.35, I request that you declare an emergency for the District of Columbia in anticipation of potentially damaging storms associated with Hurricane Sandy. These storms are expected to make landfall in the District of Columbia on October 28-29, 2012.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) and NOAA's Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) report that Sandy is transitioning from a tropical to extra-tropical event that will deliver high winds, potentially serious coastal erosion and coastal flooding, storm surge, heavy rains, and significant snows. Indeed, HPC will be taking over forecasting for this event as it loses its hurricane characteristics and becomes post-tropical. Analysts suggest that Sandy may be unlike anything the region has ever experienced. HPC reports, "MODELS SHOW PRESSURE WELL BEYOND WHAT HAS EVER BEEN OBSERVED NEAR THE NJ/NY COAST (EVEN EXCEEDING THE 1938 LONG ISLAND EXPRESS [HURRICANE])." Because of the unique characteristics of this storm event which threatens destruction that could result in a major disaster, I am requesting a pre-landfall declaration of emergency in the District of Columbia.

On October 26, 2012, I activated the District Response Plan and in accordance with Section 501 of the Stafford Act, issued an executive order declaring a “state of emergency” in the District of Columbia. In addition, I convened members of the District’s Consequence Management Team to establish and direct incident priorities and leverage every available resource and at 4:00 p.m. today we will activate the Emergency Operations Center, which will operate continuously until the emergency is over. We have issued public alerts warning of the storm’s potential impact including flooding and high winds and have asked District residents to take pre cautions and prepare emergency kits with 3 days of water and food if power is lost. We are distributing sandbags to residents and preparing several locations for use as shelters if necessary. The Metropolitan Police Department and the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department are prepared to activate its emergency scheduling. Moreover, in accordance with the District’s emergency response plan other District agencies including the Department of Public Works, the District Department of Transportation, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health, the Office on Aging and the Department of Disability Services are all preparing to respond and coordinating resources.

Earlier this year on June 29, 2012 a sudden storm hit the National Capitol Region and knocked out power to over 400,000 residences including over 50,000 in the District of Columbia. In addition to residential power being interrupted hundreds of traffic signals and street lights were also knocked out which created significant public safety and traffic problems. Some residents were without power for several days. Every day hundreds of thousands of commuters descend on the District for work in federal agencies, District agencies and private entities. A major disruption in the District could significantly impact the government and private businesses.

I am writing to ask for direct federal assistance for emergency protective measures to protect the lives and property of the residents of the District of Columbia. As outlined above, the District has deployed all available resources but the potential damage from the anticipated storms requires further federal support. As I stated previously, the potential loss of power to so many residences, traffic lights and street lights will create a direct health risk as well as a public safety risk.

Pursuant to the Stafford Act the District will agree to cover the non-federal cost associated with this request for assistance. I have designated Chris Geldart the Director of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency as the District’s authorized representative.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vincent C. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "V".

Vincent C. Gray
Mayor
District of Columbia

Enclosures

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13
Mayor's Order 2012-186

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
 FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION
MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY

OMB No. 1660-0009 Expires December 31, 2012

1. Request Date Oct. 28, 2012

Burden Disclosure Notice

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 9 hours per response. The burden estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and submitting the form. This collection of information is required to obtain a benefit. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Washington, DC 20472, Paperwork Reduction Project (1660-0009) **NOTE: Do not send your completed form to this address.**

Completion of this form including applicable attachments satisfies legal requirements for emergency and major disaster declaration requests under 42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191, respectively, as implemented at 44 C.F.R. 206.35 and 206.36. Failure to use this form may result in a failure to meet these requirements and/or a delay in processing the request.

2a. Name of State requesting declaration (as defined in Stafford Act 102, 42 U.S.C. 5122) District of Columbia	2b. State Population (as reported by 2010 Census) 601,723
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3. Governor's Name Mayor Vincent C. Gray	4a. Designation of State Coordinating Officer upon declaration (if available) and phone number Chris Geldart, Director DC HSEMA 202-481-3801
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4b. Designation of Governor's Authorized Representative upon declaration (if available) and phone number
Chris Geldart, Director DC HSEMA 202-481-3801

6. Declaration Request For: Major Disaster (Stafford Act Sec. 401) Emergency (Stafford Act Sec. 501(a))

7. Incident Period Beginning Date End Date or Continuing *If requesting a "continuing" incident period, enclose an official statement from a qualified Federal government agency acknowledged as a national authority in a specific incident field (e.g., United States Geological Survey for seismic incidents, the National Weather Service for flooding).*

10/28/2012 _____

7b. Type of Incident (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Drought	<input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake	<input type="checkbox"/> Explosion	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hurricane	<input type="checkbox"/> Landslide	<input type="checkbox"/> Mudslide
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm (rain, high water, wind-driven rain, hail, lightning)	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowstorm (Must include Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data)					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Straight-Line Winds	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tidal Wave	<input type="checkbox"/> Tornado	<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Depression	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tropical Storm	<input type="checkbox"/> Tsunami	<input type="checkbox"/> Volcanic Eruption	<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Storm	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____							

8. Description of damages (Short description of impacts of disaster on affected area and population). Include additional details in enclosed Governor's cover letter.

A severe storm is approaching the District of Columbia with landfall anticipated on October 28-29, 2012. The National Hurricane Center (NHC) and NOAA's Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) report that Hurricane Sandy is transitioning from a tropical to extra-tropical event that will deliver high winds, potentially serious coastal erosion and coastal flooding, storm surge, heavy rains, and significant snows. Analyses suggest that Sandy may be unlike anything the region has ever experienced.

The potential for damage which may threaten the health, safety and property of District residents is significant. Moreover, the storm could impact the operations of the federal and District governments as well as private businesses.

9. Description of the nature and amount of State and local resources which have been or will be committed. Include additional details in enclosed Governor's cover letter.

The Mayor has declared a "state of emergency" in the District of Columbia, activated the District Response Plan and convened the Consequence Management Team to establish and direct incident priorities and leverage every available resource. In addition at 4:00 p.m. on October 28, 2012 the Emergency Operations Center will be activated and will operate continuously until the emergency is over. The Metropolitan Police Department and the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department are prepared to activate its emergency scheduling. Moreover, in accordance with the District's emergency response plan other District agencies including the Department of Public Works, the District Department of Transportation, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health, the Office on Aging and the Department of Disability Services are all preparing to respond and coordinate resources.

10. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment*

Individual Assistance Dates Performed Requested _____ Start _____ End _____

Individual Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)

Public Assistance Dates Performed Requested _____ Start _____ End _____

Public Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)

11. Programs and Areas Requested

Individual Assistance N/A Individual and Households Crisis Counseling Program Disaster Unemployment Assistance
 All Disaster Case Management Disaster Legal Services

For the following jurisdictions (specify counties, parishes, independent cities) If additional space is needed, please enclose additional documentation.

Identify Federally recognized Tribes in the requested counties.

Please see **Enclosure A: Supplemental Information for Individual Assistance** for additional information in support of this request*

**Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request*

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Public Assistance N/A Debris Removal (Category A) Emergency Protective Measures (Category B) Permanent Work (Categories C-G)
(not available for Emergency Declaration Requests)

For the following jurisdictions (Specify counties, parishes, independent cities) If additional space is needed or your request includes different categories of work for different jurisdictions, please enclose additional documentation.

Identify Federally recognized Tribes included in the requested counties.

Please see **Enclosure B: Supplemental Information for Public Assistance** for additional information in support of this request*

Indemnification for Debris Removal Activity

I do not anticipate the need for debris removal.

I anticipate the need for debris removal, which poses an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety. Pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170b & 5173, the State agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

Request for Direct Federal Assistance

I do not request direct Federal assistance at this time.

I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property, and:

a. I request the following type(s) of assistance:

Significant power outages have the greatest potential to directly impact the lives and safety of District residents. Resources are needed to prepare for restoration of power, the impact of the loss of power on the region and individual residents requires additional resources for public safety, shelters and medical care. Resources to ensure adequate debris removal to provide access for first responders and emergency workers. General mass care staffing if necessary.

b. List of reasons why State and local governments cannot perform, or contract for, required work and services.

The District is deploying all available resources to prepare for the impact of the storms, however, the potential severity of the storm and the damage it may cause will exhaust the District's resources.

c. In accordance with 44 C.F.R. 206.208, the State agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance: (1) Provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements and rights-of-ways necessary to accomplish the approved work; (2) Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work; (3) Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State Agreement; and (4) Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.

Request for Snow Assistance

N/A I request snow assistance.

Snow assistance for the following jurisdictions (Specify counties, independent cities).

Please see **Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data** for additional information in support of this request.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Hazard Mitigation* Statewide **OR**

For the following specific counties, parishes, independent cities.

12. Mitigation Plan Information*

a. Mitigation Plan Expiration Date _____ b. Type of Plan Enhanced Standard

13. Other Federal Agency Programs

I do not anticipate requirement from Other Federal Agencies. I do anticipate requirement from Other Federal Agencies.

Please see **Enclosure C: Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs** for additional information in support of this request.

14. Findings and Certifications

I certify the following:

a. I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local government and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary.

b. In response to this incident, I have taken appropriate action under State law and have directed the execution of the State Emergency Plan on October 26, 2012 in accordance with the Stafford Act.

c. The State and local governments will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

15. List of Enclosures and Supporting Documentation

- Cover Letter Enclosure A (Individual Assistance)* Enclosure B (Public Assistance)*
 Enclosure C (Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs) Enclosure D (Historic and Current Snowfall Data)
 Additional Supporting Documentation Mayor's Order Declaring an Emergency October 26, 2012



Governor's Signature

10/28/12

Date

If anyone except the Governor signs this document, please provide the documentation that establishes that this individual has the legal authority to act on behalf of the Governor.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

**Mayor's Order 2012-186
October 26, 2012**

SUBJECT: Declaration of Public Emergency

ORIGINATING AGENCY: District of Columbia Homeland Security and
Emergency Management Agency

By virtue of the authority vested in the Mayor of the District of Columbia pursuant to section 422(11) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 790, Pub. L. No. 93-198, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.22(11) (2012 Supp.), and pursuant to section 5 of the District of Columbia Public Emergency Act of 1980, effective March 5, 1981, D.C. Law 3-149, D.C. Official Code § 7-2304 (2008 Repl.), and section 2 of the Natural Disaster Consumer Protection Act of 1992 ("NDCPA"), effective March 20, 1992, D.C. Law 9-80, D.C. Official Code § 28-4102 (2011 Repl.), it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

I. FINDINGS (NATURE OF THE PUBLIC EMERGENCY)

Because a storm system associated with Hurricane Sandy is rapidly approaching the District and is expected to have serious widespread effects in the region, there is an imminent threat to the health, safety and welfare of District residents that requires emergency protective actions. Accordingly, a public emergency is by this Order declared in the District of Columbia, effective October 26, 2012. This Order shall stay in effect for 15 days until and unless provided for by further Mayoral Order.

II. EMERGENCY MEASURES AND REQUIREMENTS

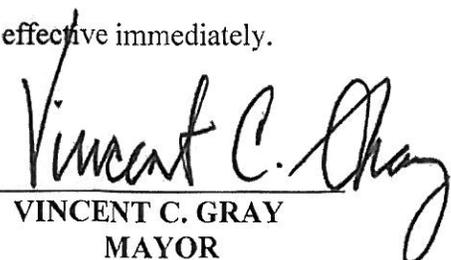
A. The City Administrator, in consultation with the Director of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, is authorized to implement such measures as may be necessary or appropriate to protect persons and property in the District of Columbia from the conditions caused by the this storm. Such measures may include, as necessary or appropriate, actions authorized under D.C. Official Code § 7-2304(b), including requesting federal disaster assistance, or taking measures under the District Response Plan to the extent necessary or appropriate to effectuate the relief contemplated by this Order. Such measures may also include where appropriate, actions to enforce the NDCPA.

- B. This Order shall apply to all departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the District government as necessary or appropriate to implement this Order.
- C. The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia is authorized to approve disbursement of all appropriations necessary to carry out this Order.
- D. The City Administrator, in coordination with the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, the Director of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and the Chief Financial Officer, is authorized to apply for financial assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, any other federal, private, or nonprofit disaster relief and recovery organizations, and any other appropriate agencies of the United States government to recoup expenditures incurred, or obtain funding needed, under this order.
- E. The District Response Plan (DRP) is hereby implemented beginning October 26, 2012.
- F. In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 390.23 (Relief from Regulations), crews directly engaged in the resolution of this emergency shall not be subject to any provision that restricts the length of their work hours. Accordingly, this order permits utility workers and District agencies to retain crews to complete emergency repairs and restore services beyond normal work hours.

III. DURATION OF ORDER

This Order shall remain in effect until fifteen (15) days after its effective date, unless earlier rescinded or superseded.

- IV. EFFECTIVE DATE:** This Order shall become effective immediately.



VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

ATTEST: 
CYNTHIA BROCK-SMITH
SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA