



# DISASTER NEWS

*Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes*

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## **SBA Opens Disaster Office to Help Victims of Mountainview Venture Apartment Fire in Covina**

**Sacramento, CA** – Hector V. Barreto, Administrator of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA), declared Los Angeles County a disaster area due to damage caused by the Mountainview Venture Apartment Fire on July 18, 2004 in Covina. SBA’s disaster declaration makes low-interest Federal disaster loans available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the fire. This action responds to a request from Henry R. Renteria, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s authorized representative.

According to Bruce Thompson, SBA Regional Administrator, SBA is opening a disaster center **Covina at 1 pm on Monday, August 9** to assist victims in applying for these low-interest disaster loans. “An SBA loan officer will be on hand at **Covina City Hall, 125 E. College Street**, to issues loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application,” Thompson said. The center will be open on the following days and times:

<b>Mon., Aug. 9</b>	<b>1 pm to 5 pm</b>	<b>Mon., Aug. 16</b>	<b>1 pm to 5 pm</b>
<b>Tues., Aug. 10</b>	<b>9 am to noon, 1 pm – 5 pm</b>	<b>Tues., Aug. 17</b>	<b>9 am to noon, 1 pm – 5 pm</b>
<b>Wed., Aug. 11</b>	<b>9 am to noon, 1 pm – 5 pm</b>	<b>Wed., Aug. 18</b>	<b>9 am to noon, 1 pm – 5 pm</b>
<b>Thur., Aug. 12</b>	<b>9 am to noon</b>	<b>Thur., Aug. 19</b>	<b>9 am to noon</b>

According to Alberto G. Alvarado, SBA’s Los Angeles District Director, disaster loans of up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

“Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. Additionally, Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$1.5 million are available to small businesses,” Alvarado said.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit SBA’s disaster center may obtain information and loan applications by writing to SBA at P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841-9004, or by calling toll-free (800) 488-5323. Hearing impaired individuals may call (916) 735-1683.

Applications for property damage must be returned to SBA by **October 5, 2004**. Applications for economic injury must be returned by **May 5, 2005**.

*For more information visit SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster).*

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