FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Residents encouraged to meet with FEMA representatives, DRC closed election day

November 3, 2016 – Flagler County officials recommending that any and all residents affected by Hurricane Matthew speak with FEMA representatives while the Disaster Recovery Center is set up at the Palm Coast Branch Library.

The Disaster Recovery Center is FEMA’s outreach office from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. The Disaster Recovery Center will also be closed, November 8 – Election Day, reopening the following morning.

“It is important for people to go ahead and register at www.disasterassistance.gov and then go in and meet with FEMA representatives at the library,” said Steve Garten, Flagler County Public Safety Emergency Manager. “Personal insurance has to cover damages first, and then FEMA can provide additional resources. FEMA has a lot of other services, like legal assistance for a variety of issues that includes replacing important legal documents destroyed in the hurricane.”

Representatives from the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be on hand to answer questions about disaster assistance and low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses. Additionally, they will help residents apply for federal disaster assistance.

FEMA services include: guidance regarding disaster recovery; clarification of any written correspondence received; housing assistance and rental resource information; answers to questions, problem resolution and referrals to agencies that may provide further assistance; status of applications being processed by FEMA; crisis counseling; disaster legal services; and, disaster unemployment.

“It is better to go ahead and get the process started,” Garten said. “It can take some time before you even find out what your insurance will cover. You may end up being eligible for assistance you didn’t realize you would need.”

The Palm Coast Branch Library is located at 2500 Palm Coast Parkway Northwest, at the intersection of Belle Terre Parkway.

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