FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Time running out to apply for federal disaster relief

February 17, 2016 – Flagler County residents who have yet to register for federal disaster assistance should apply for it quickly as the deadline is December 16.

“Those who suffered damage and losses from Hurricane Matthew should make sure they register right away, if they haven’t already done so,” Flagler County Administrator Craig Coffey said. “This deadline is right in the middle of the holiday season, when schedules are already busy.”

Federal disaster assistance may help Flagler County residents who have either underinsured or uninsured damages. FEMA does not duplicate assistance covered by insurance, but may provide financial help for losses that are not covered by insurance.

Online registration is available at www.disasterassistance.gov. Residents can call 800-621-3362, or at TTY 800-462-7585. Helpline hours are from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily until further notice.

Additionally, there is a Disaster Recovery Center in operation at the Palm Coast Branch Library from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday and for the Thanksgiving holiday.

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.

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