FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Residential re-entry will be in stages when safe

October 7, 2016 – Residential re-entry will begin stages after preliminary assessments have been done to ensure the conditions are safe.

“Law enforcement is not going to let anyone into the evacuated areas until they have been confirmed safe,” said Steve Garten, Flagler County public safety emergency manager. “Just because people see our road crews, FP&L, first responders, law enforcement officers – all of us who are trying to ensure your safety – that doesn’t mean that it is safe for you to be driving around.”

Initially re-entry is limited by law to essential staff of the critical municipal agencies for the purposes of clean-up and damage assessment.

“It’s going to be a little while before residents will be allowed back in,” Flagler County Administrator Craig Coffey said. “We know people are anxious to see their homes for themselves, but we cannot let anyone back in to the evacuated areas until we know for sure it will be safe for you to do so. Seeing government vehicles or our contractors on the roads does not mean that the area is safe for you to re-enter.”

Flagler County will let residents know through its websites, social media and public service announcements when it is safe to go back into areas that had been evacuated.

For general questions, please use the citizen information call-in line at 386-586-5111. People are answering calls 24 hours a day. This will help keep the 9-1-1 lines free for emergencies.

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