



## Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

**Ramon Garcia**  
*County Judge*

**David L. Fuentes**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 1*

**Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 2*

**Joe M. Flores**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 3*

**Joseph Palacios**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 4*

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 6, 2018

## Hidalgo County residents may now apply for FEMA assistance

**EDINBURG** – Hidalgo County Judge Ramon Garcia and the Office of Emergency Management announced today that Hidalgo County residents whose homes or businesses were damaged from recent storms and flooding may be eligible for federal assistance.

According to a press release from Governor Greg Abbott's office, President Donald Trump and the Federal Emergency Management Agency approved the governor's federal disaster request for Individual Assistance for Hidalgo and Cameron counties on Friday, July 6, 2018.

Residents who suffered damages from the June 20 and 21 storms are encouraged to register with FEMA by calling 800-621-3362. Once registered, residents can expect to receive an application from the Small Business Administration. It is important to fill out the application, whether a resident is interested in an SBA loan or not, to qualify for full FEMA benefits. Once registered, an inspector will be sent to the resident's home. There is no charge for the inspections.

Although the county has not received confirmation, it is likely that a Disaster Recovery Center will be open soon. A Disaster Recovery Center is a readily accessible facility where applicants may go for information about FEMA or other disaster assistance programs, for questions about individual cases and for assistance registering for aid.

Disaster assistance for homeowners and renters may include grants to help pay for rent, temporary housing and home repairs, as well as other serious disaster-related needs. The goal of the assistance is to repair the home to a safe and sanitary living or functioning condition. Up to \$33,000 is available for home repair, which may include:

- Structural parts of a home
- Windows, doors, floors, walls, ceilings, cabinetry
- Septic or sewage system
- Well or other water system
- Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system
- Utilities
- Entrance and exit ways from the home, including privately owned access roads
- Blocking, leveling and anchoring of a mobile home and reconnecting or resetting its sewer, water, electrical and fuel lines and tanks.

Residents with damage received from the recent storms and flooding are encouraged to register by calling FEMA at 800-621-3362.

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