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Date: 12/23/2015 10:48:25 AM  
Subject: Re: DRAFT news release on FEMA appeals

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I'm ok here. Swati/Becca - any concerns?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 23, 2015, at 10:36 AM, Becker, Derrec <[DBecker@emd.sc.gov](mailto:DBecker@emd.sc.gov)> wrote:

Good Morning everyone,

Here is the draft news release that details how people can file an appeal to FEMA regarding disaster aid. Once you approve, this news release will be issued immediately. If you have any questions, please let me know...  
thanks, Derrec

## **S.C. Flood Survivors can Appeal FEMA Aid Determination**

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – South Carolina disaster survivors with questions about the assistance they received from FEMA or their eligibility determinations have the right to appeal the decision. Those who want to appeal should do so in writing within 60 days of the date of the determination letter.

Guidelines for appeals can be found on page 10 of the Applicant's Guide, which is sent to everyone who registers with FEMA.

In the appeal letter to FEMA, an applicant should:

- include full name, address, and date and place of birth;
- include the last four digits of the applicant's social security number;
- include FEMA registration number and the disaster number, DR-4241, on every page;
- explain why you disagree with FEMA's decision;
- include any supporting documentation for the appeal;
- include the following statement: "I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.";
- sign the letter.

Appeal letters should be mailed to:

**FEMA Appeals Officer**  
**National Processing Service Center**  
**P.O. Box 10055**  
**Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055**

Appeal letters and supporting documents can also be faxed to:

**800-827-8112**  
**Attn: FEMA Appeals Officer**

For disaster recovery center locations, visit: <http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm>.

FEMA recognizes that varying circumstances may prevent an applicant from filing an appeal within the standard 60-day appeal period. However, applicants who miss the 60-day deadline must submit with their appeals an explanation stating why they did not apply by the deadline. Applicants whose appeal letters are submitted outside the 60-day appeal period are not automatically denied a review.

FEMA and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division are committed to providing all eligible assistance to those who were affected by the Oct. 1-23 storms and flooding. Applicants with questions about their eligibility determinations or their assistance can contact FEMA by phone or visit a disaster recovery center to speak with an applicant services specialist.

The last day to register for FEMA assistance is **Jan. 4, 2016**. Residents can call the FEMA helpline at **800-621-3362**, TTY **800-462-7585**, 711/VRS **800-621-3362**. Residents may also visit [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov).

FEMA is working with its federal, state and local partner agencies as well as private sector and voluntary agencies, and faith-based organizations to reach everyone who qualifies for disaster assistance under the Individuals and Households Program.

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*"South Carolina's emergency management program minimizes loss of life and property damage from all-hazard events."*

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