

# THE WHITE HOUSE DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND TRACKING WORKSHEET

**DATE RECEIVED:** 1/10/2005

**CASE ID:** 648264

**NAME OF CORRESPONDENT:** THE HONORABLE RICHARD J. DURBIN

DI002

**SUBJECT:** SUPPORTS GOVERNOR ROD BLAGOJEVICH'S REQUEST THAT SEVENTEEN COUNTIES IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS RECEIVE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE BASED ON A RECENT SEVERE WINTER STORM

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		CODE	DATE	TYPE RESPONSE	CODE	COMPLETED
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	DAVID HOBBS	ORG	1/10/2005		C	CJ
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY		R	1/10/2005		A	4/20/05
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						

**COMMENTS:**

**MEDIA:** FAX

**USER CODE:** 1ADDL SIGNEE

SCANNED  
BY  
ORM

ACTION CODES:	DISPOSITION		
A - APPROPRIATE ACTION B - RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK D - DRAFT RESPONSE I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY	<b>TYPE RESPONSE:</b>  TYPE RESPONSE = INITIALS OF SIGNER NRN = NO RESPONSE NEEDED	<b>DISPOSITION CODES:</b>  A - ANSWERED/ACKNOWLEDGED C - CLOSED X - INTERIM REPLY	<b>COMPLETED DATE:</b>  COMPLETED = DATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR CLOSE-OUT DATE (MM/DD/YY)

**REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (ROOM 84, OEOB) EXT-62590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT**

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
500 C Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20472

WH# 648264

APR 20 2005



**FEMA**

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

Thank you for your January 7, 2005, letter to President George W. Bush, co-signed by Senator Barack Obama. You wrote in support of Governor Rod Blagojevich's request for an emergency declaration for 17 counties in the State of Illinois following the severe winter storm that occurred from December 21-25, 2004. The White House forwarded your letter to the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) because we coordinate the President's disaster assistance programs.

On February 1, 2005, President Bush issued an emergency declaration for the State of Illinois, FEMA-3199-EM, making communities in Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson, Lawrence, Massac, Pope, Richland, Saline, Union, Wabash, White, and Williamson counties eligible for Federal funding for partial reimbursement of their expenses for emergency protective measures undertaken as a result of the snowstorms. This includes State and local government operations needed to protect public health and safety and to prevent damage to public or private property.

Under the emergency declaration, FEMA will provide reimbursement to State and local government agencies for 75 percent of the total eligible costs of equipment, contracts, and personnel overtime related to emergency services in dealing with the snow over a 48-hour period. These are the crucial hours when work crews clear snow from emergency routes and roads to critical facilities to permit the passage of emergency vehicles. Related emergency protective measures such as sanding and salting, search and rescue, shelter operations, and police and fire department response may also be eligible for reimbursement.

I hope this information is helpful. Should you have further questions, please have a member of your staff contact our Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 646-4500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Craig", written over a horizontal line.

Daniel A. Craig  
Director  
Recovery Division  
Emergency Preparedness and Response

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
500 C Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20472

WH# 648 264  
APR 20 2005**FEMA**

The Honorable Barack Obama  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Obama:

Thank you for your January 7, 2005, letter to President George W. Bush, co-signed by Senator Richard J. Durbin. You wrote in support of Governor Rod Blagojevich's request for an emergency declaration for 17 counties in the State of Illinois following the severe winter storm that occurred from December 21-25, 2004. The White House forwarded your letter to the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) because we coordinate the President's disaster assistance programs.

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I hope this information is helpful. Should you have further questions, please have a member of your staff contact our Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 646-4500.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Craig  
Director  
Recovery Division  
Emergency Preparedness and Response

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
MD National Processing Service Center  
P.O. Box 10001  
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782-7001



**FEMA**

## Facsimile Transmission

To: **Brooke Manning**

Fax: 202-456-2256

From: **Debra Leeds/FEMA MD-NPSC Correspondence Unit**

Phone: 301-209-4679

Date: 4/20/05

WH#648264

Number of pages including cover: 3

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE  
REFERRAL**

**January 10, 2005**

**TO:** FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**ACTION REQUESTED:** DIRECT REPLY W/COPY

**DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:**

**ID:** 648264

**MEDIA:** FAX

**DOCUMENT DATE:** JANUARY 07, 2005

**TO:** PRESIDENT BUSH

**FROM:** RICHARD DURBIN  
UNITED STATES SENATE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

**SUBJECT:** SUPPORTS GOVERNOR ROD BLAGOJEVICH'S REQUEST THAT SEVENTEEN COUNTIES IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS RECEIVE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE BASED ON A RECENT SEVERE WINTER STORM

**COMMENTS:**

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PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-2590.

RETURN **ORIGINAL** CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT)  
TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT, ROOM 84, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

*EVILADRA  
01-10-05*

*# 648264*

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 7, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of a request dated January 6, 2005, from Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich asking that seventeen counties in the state receive federal assistance based on a recent severe winter storm. Governor Blagojevich has already declared a state disaster for the affected areas.

These seventeen impacted counties – Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Lawrence, Massac, Pope, Richland, Saline, Union, Wabash, White, and Williamson – experienced record or near record two-day snowfalls in December.

This winter storm blanketed the area with significant snow fall, frigid temperatures, and severe blowing and drifting snow which strained state and local government snow removal operations. It caused many local communities to deplete their snow removal budgets with two months of winter still remaining.

It is important that federal assistance be made available as soon as possible to help address the financial strain of this storm on the State and local communities. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is coordinating the state's response.

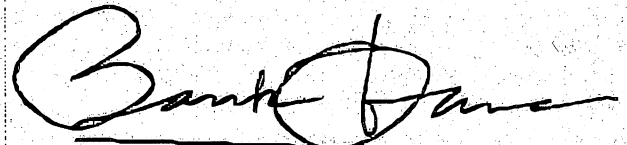
Mr. President, we respectfully request that you make the necessary declaration in order for the State of Illinois and the affected counties to receive federal disaster assistance.

I thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this important request and stand ready to assist in any way appropriate.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Barack Obama  
United States Senator

**RECEIVED BY**  
JAN 10 2005  
**LACORR**



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**  
**Legislative Correspondence**  
**PHONE: (202) 456-5996**  
**FAX: (202) 456-2256**

**FASCIMILE COVER SHEET**

**TO:** Loretta Shaffer FAX: 646-3600  
FEMA

**CC:** Heather Musser FAX: 456-2525  
Cabinet Affairs

**FROM:** Brooke Manning PHONE: 456-5996

**DATE:** January 10, 2005 **PAGES, including cover 2**

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Please find attached a letter of support for Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich's disaster declaration request. Kindly respond accordingly and copy our office.

If you have any questions, please let us know.  
Thank you.

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	4280
CONNECTION TEL	
CONNECTION ID	CABINET AFFAIRS
ST. TIME	01/10 13:51
USAGE T	00'41
PGS. SENT	2
RESULT	OK



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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	4279	
CONNECTION TEL		2026463600
CONNECTION ID		
ST. TIME	01/10 13:49	
USAGE T	00'42	
PGS. SENT	2	
RESULT	OK	