SBA Disaster Assistance Available To Victims of Glenside Condo Fire

Cheltenham, PA (October 19, 2012) – Residents and businesses affected by the fire at the 1600 Church Road condominiums in Glenside on October 5, 2012 can apply for low-interest disaster loans from the federal Small Business Administration.

Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to $40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property, said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA’s Field Operations Center East in Atlanta.

A Disaster Loan Outreach Center will open Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at the Manor Apartments, Arcadia University, 777 Limekiln Pike, Glenside and SBA customer service representatives will be on hand to answer questions, explain the process, issue and help residents complete their applications.

The Outreach Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 23 and 24, from noon to 9 p.m., on Thursday, October 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Friday, October 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Saturday, October 27 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and again on Monday, October 29.

The Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management will coordinate staff of the Outreach Center, which will also have representatives from the Montgomery County Office of Aging and Adult Services, Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities, Prothonotary, Health Department, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross, and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

The SBA also offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans for small businesses and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.
Interest rates are as low as 1.688 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for non-profit organizations, and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure website at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela.

Those unable to visit the center may also obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA’s website at www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be returned to the center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is December 17, 2012. The deadline to return economic injury applications is July 18, 2013.