



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CALLING ALL GALVESTON HOMEOWNERS: YOU COULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR HELP
REBUILDING YOUR IKE-DAMAGED HOME**

Applications Now Accepted for New Housing Program in City of Galveston

HOUSTON, TX, DECEMBER 3, 2009 – City of Galveston homeowners whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Ike can now apply for assistance from the city's new Disaster Recovery Housing Program – a voluntary program designed to help repair damage and, when necessary, reconstruct homes. All eligible homeowners are encouraged to apply.

"The City of Galveston is grateful to have received the funding to help our city's homeowners rebuild," said Steve LeBlanc, Galveston City Manager. "We are now focused on getting the word out to eligible homeowners – many of whom may have moved out of town and even out of the state."

To qualify for assistance, homeowners must reside within the City of Galveston and own a home damaged by Hurricane Ike. Other eligibility requirements include:

- The applicant must be the owner of record of the damaged structure and land at the time of the storm, and the home must have been the homeowners' primary residence
- The applicant must still own the home
- The home must be a single-family or a duplex
- Additional requirements apply

Phase I of the program will target applicants of low or moderate income, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Funds for recovery from Hurricane Ike were granted to Texas from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and are being administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Homeowners may pick up an application and a step-by-step description of the application process in the recently opened Housing Assistance Center, Room 100 of the Galveston City Hall, 823 25th Street, they can download it on the Galveston City Recovers website at www.galvestoncityrecovers.org, or they can call 409-797-3773.

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