

CEDRIC L. RICHMOND
2ND DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

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COURTS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
THE INTERNET

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1802

March 21, 2016

240 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6636

DISTRICT OFFICES:
2021 LAKESHORE DRIVE
SUITE 309
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70122
(504) 288-3777

200 DERBIGNY STREET
SUITE 3200
GRETNA, LA 70053
(504) 365-0390

1520 THOMAS H. DELPIT DRIVE
SUITE 126
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
(225) 636-5600

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20006

Dear President Obama and Administrator Fugate:

Governor John Bel Edwards has requested a major Presidential Disaster Declaration as a result of storm and tornado damage in Assumption, Iberville, Livingston, St. James, and St. John the Baptist parishes, and has asked specifically for Public and Individual Assistance. This declaration would allow much-needed federal resources to help people recover from severe weather that has destroyed homes and damaged communities. As the Representative in Congress for many of the people affected by these storms, I ask that you review the Governor's request quickly, declare these areas part of a major disaster, and provide all the federal resources that the people deserve.

Over the last month, the state of Louisiana has experienced severe storms, massive flooding, and a record amount of tornadic activity. All of these have combined to cause damage beyond the resources available to respond. In St. James Parish, a tornado touched down in an RV park home to 160 trailers, taking two lives. In St. John the Baptist Parish, over 500 properties sustained damage. I have seen first-hand the destruction caused in Assumption parish and know that the other parishes had communities ripped apart by tornados. I know the federal government has a role to play in helping the people affected by these disasters recover and rebuild. Our local leaders know it too, that's why many of them have written you letters recently requesting the declaration as well.

State and federal agencies have been working closely together in the response to severe weather in the last month. I trust that cooperation will continue. In the face of unprecedented tornados, severe storms, and record flooding, the people of Louisiana have continued to stand up and fight back by helping each other and working to rebuild their homes and communities. Declaring the tornados part of a major disaster will give the people of Assumption, Iberville, Livingston, St. James, and St. John the support they deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Richmond', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress

Cc: Administrator Craig Fugate