



August 5, 2019

Ms. Tanya Garfield, Director
Office of Disaster Assistance
Field Operations Center West
U.S. Small Business Administration
Post Office Box 419004
Sacramento, California 95841-9004

Subject: Request for a U.S. Small Business Administration Physical Disaster
Declaration – Kern and San Bernardino Counties

Dear Ms. Garfield:

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) received a request for assistance as a result of the California Earthquakes that occurred July 5, 2019, in Kern and San Bernardino Counties. The M7.1 earthquake was preceded by a M6.4 foreshock and followed by over 14,000 aftershocks, resulting in structural damages to homes, businesses, and private non-profits.

A joint damage assessment was conducted by state and federal agencies on July 11-13 2019. The damage survey revealed more than 100 homes and/or businesses have uninsured losses of at least 40 percent of their value.

On behalf of Governor Newsom, I request you declare Kern and San Bernardino Counties a disaster area. A declaration by the SBA Administrator will provide low-interest, disaster loans for those adversely affected by the California Earthquakes.

Thank you for your continued partnership with Cal OES in disaster recovery efforts. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Karma Hackney, Individual Assistance Program Manager, at (916) 845-8141.

Sincerely,

MARK S. GHILARDUCCI
Director

cc: County Office of Emergency Services
County Board of Supervisor

