

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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September 8, 2017

The Honorable Tim Lapham
Austin County Judge
Austin County Courthouse
1 E Main St
Bellville, TX 77418-1521

Dear Judge Lapham:

The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) has received notice from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture that farm operators in your county are eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency disaster loans from USDA as a result of a Presidential Declaration declared by FEMA (see attached declaration and Amendments 1 and 3) for 22 primary counties and a number of contiguous counties in Texas. Please be aware that if your county is listed as a *contiguous county*, you will not qualify for FEMA assistance unless specifically declared by FEMA.

The Secretary has notified the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to immediately make emergency loans available to eligible applicants in your county. Your local FSA office will have the details on this program.

Sincerely,

W. Nim Kidd, CEM®
Assistant Director
Texas Department of Public Safety
Chief
Texas Division of Emergency Management