



**For Immediate Release**  
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**September 22, 2012**

Press Release:

**State Providing Emergency Assistance to Mat-Su and Kenai Peninsula Borough**  
***Emergency Response Request to Address Critical Needs***

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) is responding to emergency requests made by the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) and Kenai Peninsula Boroughs (KPB). These jurisdictions have requested state support to address disaster response needs.

“The local and borough emergency responders should be proud of their service to their communities. They have displayed dedication and professionalism since the onset of this event,” said John Madden, Director of DHS&EM. “In addition to DHS&EM, the Department of Transportation, Department of Environment Conservation, Alaska State Troopers, American Red Cross of Alaska, Salvation Army, and Alaska National Guard have provided support.”

The Mat-Su Borough has requested 10 incident management personnel, through the State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC), to support ongoing operations in the Mat-Su area. The SOEC has dispatched elements of an Interagency Type 2 Incident Management Team with instructions to report to the Mat-Su Borough EOC. The Incident Management Team will serve the Mat-Su Borough Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In addition, DHS&EM liaison will continue provide state coordination in the Mat-Su EOC.

KPB’s Emergency Manager requested DHS&EM provide state coordination liaisons in the Seward and KPB EOC. A DHS&EM Emergency Management Specialist will travel to Seward tomorrow to provide state coordination to the KPB Emergency Manager working in the Seward EOC. A second DHS&EM Emergency Manager will be deployed to the KPB EOC on Monday.

Governor Sean Parnell made a declaration of a state disaster yesterday for the Mat-Su and Kenai Peninsula Boroughs, as well as other impacted areas. The declaration authorizes all state agencies and resources to be used to address emergency response needs.

Flood clean-up and current information can be found at [www.flood.alaska.gov](http://www.flood.alaska.gov).  
A list of open shelters can be found at <http://www.alaska.redcross.org/>

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