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Region IV

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Escambia County Gets \$88,000 FEMA Grant

Region IV Release
Release Date: June 4, 2002

Atlanta, GA -- Escambia County, Florida, will receive an \$88,444 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for use in installing storm shutters on the Cantonment Court county's main jail facility, the sheriff's Ellyson Park Substation and the NW Florida Blood Center. In addition, an emergency power generator will be installed at the NW Florida Blood Center.

All glass window openings on the three structures will be equipped with Miami/Dade Code hurricane shutters that can prevent dangerous flying debris from shattering them in future windstorms. "Building disaster resistant structures often involves taking just a small step to result," said FEMA Region IV Director Ken Burris.

Total cost for all four-project locations is estimated at \$117,926, of which FEMA will provide 75 percent (\$88,444). State and local governments will cover the remaining 25%, equally.

"We are pleased to partner with FEMA and Escambia County to ensure continuity of critical services while reducing the risk of injury to people who cannot evacuate during severe weather," said Governor Jeb Bush. "Providing an uninterrupted power supply to the Northwest Florida Blood Center will help our response efforts after disaster strikes."

The grant is a part of FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program designed to help state and local governments take actions now to prevent or reduce the adverse impacts of future disaster. The program's goal is to reduce the loss of life, property and goods due to natural disasters.

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