

and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.)

**W. Craig Fugate,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-4012-DR; Docket ID FEMA-2011-0001]

#### Missouri; Amendment No. 2 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Missouri (FEMA-4012-DR), dated

August 12, 2011, and related determinations.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* September 9, 2011.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Peggy Miller, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3886.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Missouri is hereby amended to include the Public Assistance program for the following areas among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the event declared a major disaster by the President in his declaration of August 12, 2011.

Carroll, Cooper, Ray, and Saline Counties for Public Assistance.

Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Holt, Lafayette, and Platte Counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance).

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households in Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals

and Households; 97.050 Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.)

**W. Craig Fugate,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 2011-24074 Filed 9-19-11; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-4023-DR; Docket ID FEMA-2011-0001]

#### Connecticut; Amendment No. 4 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Connecticut (FEMA-4023-DR), dated September 2, 2011, and related determinations.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* September 1, 2011.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Peggy Miller, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3886.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that the incident period for this disaster is closed effective September 1, 2011.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households in Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.)

**W. Craig Fugate,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 2011-24062 Filed 9-19-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-23-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. FR-5484-N-31]

#### Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Local Appeals to Single-Family Mortgage Limits

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

**DATES:** *Comments Due Date:* November 21, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Reports Liaison Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410, Room 9120 or the number for the Federal Information Relay Service (1-800-877-8339).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Program Contact, Arlene Nunes, Director, Home Mortgage Insurance Division, Office of Single Family Program Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708-2121 (this is not a toll free number) for copies of the proposed forms and other available information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information

on those who are to respond; including the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Local Appeals to Single-Family Mortgage Limits.

*OMB Control Number, if applicable:* 2502-0302.

*Description of the need for the information and proposed use:* HUD has allowed interested parties to submit appeals in support of higher loan amounts. HUD's current regulations for loan-limit appeals date back to the early 1980's. Section 203.18(b) of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) permits any party to request an alternative mortgage loan limit to the one established by the Secretary in any area of country at any time. The Federal Housing Administration originally issued Mortgagee Letter 95-27, dated June 2, 1995, which outlined the appeal process, and Mortgagee Letter 2007-01, dated January 3, 2007, subsequently re-emphasized the basic appeal process and added requirements for data used in non-disclosure states and an optional procedures for reviewing new construction sales data. At that time, there were no comprehensive, national data bases of home sale transactions. Appeals by interested parties were also an important part of the loan-limit determination process. Most often, requestors would provide lists of sales from local Multiple Listing Services, which were reviewed by local HUD field offices or, later, Homeownership Centers, for validity and use in updating loan limits.

Starting in 2008, with the passage of the *Economic Stimulus Act of 2008* (ESA), HUD developed a new centralized procedure for managing and updating FHA loan limits. This procedure took advantage of newly available national data sources that compile sale transaction information from county deed recorders, using those data to compute median prices. Area median prices are the fundamental factor used to calculate maximum mortgage amounts. Having this data negates the need for appeals in covered areas because HUD already has access to complete information on home sales. Since 2008, the availability of comprehensive data has increased to where in 2010 it was available to HUD for over 2,000 of the more than 3,200 counties and county-equivalent areas across the country. Counties for which these data are not readily available to HUD generally either have too few sale transaction to compute reliable median

prices, or else are immaterial to the process because median prices are sufficiently below the level that would trigger eligibility for a "high-cost area" loan limits above the national floor. For thin-data counties, HUD uses indirect sources to compute median prices, relying instead upon a combination of information to develop best estimates of median prices/values that match the time period of the transaction data used for other counties.

Since these new procedures took effect in 2008, under suspension of published regulations, the number of appeals received and accepted by FHA has dropped to zero. For the 2010 loan limits, only one appeal was received, and that was rejected because HUD already had comprehensive sale price data for the subject county. For the 2011 loan limits, no appeals were received. As a result, the need for an appeals process to inform HUD of local home price trends is no longer necessary.

*Agency form numbers, if applicable:* None.

*Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response:* The number of burden hours is 119. The number of respondents is 17, which is based on the actual number of requests received since 2008. The number of responses is 17 and the frequency of response is one per appeal. The burden hour per response is 7. The Federal government burden has reduced over the past 3 years. In 2010, only one appeal was received but rejected due to HUD having sufficient data in support of loan limit. In 2011, no appeals were received.

*Status of the proposed information collection:* This is an extension of a currently approved collection. HUD is still proceeding with the request for renewal of the subject information collection pending OMB's review and approval of HUD's request to eliminate regulations on the appeal process in its entirety.

**Authority:** The *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: September 14, 2011.

**Ronald Y. Spraker,**

*Associate General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing-Associate Deputy Federal Housing Commissioner.*

[FR Doc. 2011-23970 Filed 9-19-11; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. FR-5500-FA-23]

### Announcement of Funding Awards for Fiscal Year 2011; Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant Program

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD.

**ACTION:** Announcement of funding awards.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Section 102(a)(4)(C) of the *Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989*, this document notifies the public of funding awards for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant (DDRG) Program. The purpose of this document is to announce the names and addresses of the award winners and the amount of the awards to be used to help doctoral candidates complete dissertations on topics that focus on housing and urban development issues.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Brunson, Office of University Partnerships, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 8226, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410, Telephone (202) 402-3852. To provide service for persons who are hearing- or speech-impaired, this number may be reached via TTY by dialing the Federal Information Relay Service on (800) 877-8339 or (202) 708-1455. (Telephone numbers, other than "800" TTY numbers, are not toll free).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The DDRG Program was created as a means of expanding the number of researchers conducting research on subjects of interest to HUD. Doctoral candidates can receive grants of up to \$25,000 to complete work on their dissertations. Grants are awarded for a two-year period. The Office of University Partnerships under the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research (PD&R) administers this program. In addition to this program, the Office of University Partnerships administers HUD's ongoing grant programs to institutions of higher education as well as creates initiatives through which colleges and universities can bring their traditional missions of teaching, research, service, and outreach to bear on the pressing local problems in their communities.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 14.517.