



**FEMA**

March 13, 2019  
FEMA DR-4413-AK NR 020  
FEMA News Desk: 907-227-0790  
Alaska PIO: 907-428-7140  
SBA PIO: 916-847-2638

# News Release

## **Free Legal Services Available to Eligible Alaskans Affected by Nov. 30 Quake**

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** – Free legal assistance is available to low-income Alaskans who need help with earthquake-related issues such as home repair contracts and contractors; life, medical and property claims; FEMA applications and appealing FEMA decisions.

A volunteer lawyer is available to provide free legal advice Thursdays and Saturdays through March 30 at the disaster recovery center located at Spenard Community Recreation Center, 2020 West 48<sup>th</sup> Ave., Anchorage. Hours for legal advice are Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m.

Alaska residents can call **855-743-1001** to leave a message about legal issues arising from the Nov. 30 Cook Inlet earthquake. Calls will be returned within 24 to 48 hours.

Earthquake-related legal questions may also be submitted online to <https://Alaska.FreeLegalAnswers.org/>. There is no cost for the online service to individuals who meet minimum income requirements. It is not necessary to visit the Spenard center in Anchorage to receive assistance.

Disagreements often result after a disaster. Lawyers have the training and skills to help navigate those issues. Legal issues may include help securing other government benefits available to Alaskans as well as counseling on landlord-tenant issues and mortgage foreclosures.

Earthquake-related legal assistance can also include:

- replacement of will and other important legal documents lost or destroyed in the disaster;
- assistance with consumer protection issues such as price gouging and avoiding contractor scams in the rebuilding process.

Consultations with attorneys are confidential.

For more information on Alaska's disaster recovery, visit [FEMA.gov/disaster/4413](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4413), <https://twitter.com/FEMARegion10> and [Facebook.com/FEMA](https://www.facebook.com/FEMA).

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*FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.*

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has faced discrimination, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (FEMA), voice/VP/711. Multilingual operators are available. TTY users may call 800-462-7585.*

*The U.S. Small Business Administration is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955. TTY users may also call 800-877-8339. Applicants may also email [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov) or visit SBA at [www.SBA.gov/disaster](http://www.SBA.gov/disaster).*