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May 30, 2017

The Honorable Bill Haslam
Governor
1st Floor, State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Governor Haslam:

I urge you to consider requesting assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the City of Memphis and Shelby County in response to the historic storm that hit our region on Saturday that caused significant property damage to homes and businesses and left nearly 190,000 residents without power, including tens of thousands whose power has still not been restored.

FEMA administers various programs which could potentially provide relief. For example, the Public Assistance Grant Program could assist with debris removal, repair, replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged and publicly owned facilities. The Individual Assistance and Household programs could assist with temporary residences (rental assistance) or repairs to make homes safe, sanitary and functional.

I fear that, unfortunately, the amount of damage will exceed any minimum requirement.

Thank you for your prompt attention.

As always, I remain,

Most sincerely,



Steve Cohen