



On this day in 1960, [John F. Kennedy](#) accepts the Democratic nomination for president.

The Briefing for Saturday, July 15, 2023

The last Briefing was Thursday – July 13, 2023

How's your weather – <https://weather.com/>

Application Period Open Through July 31 for Hurricane Ian and Nicole Recovery Funding



FDEM One Pager
LAP.pdf

[Hurricane Ian and Nicole - Proviso Language .docx](#)

The Florida Division of Emergency Management will award up to \$350,000,000 to fund gaps in hurricane repairs and recovery to publicly owned facilities that were damaged in the hurricanes, infrastructure repairs, and loss of revenue within the counties that were declared for Hurricanes Ian and/or Nicole. The application process will be open to city and county governments, independent special districts, school boards, charter schools, and State Universities.

The division will be accepting 4 categories of applications.

1. Public Assistance will be funding for Local Governments that have, or will have, a Public Assistance Project Worksheet on file. This

funding will be used as an advance payment or a 0% loan to get your projects started.

a. Types of Permanent Work Projects that you can apply for to be considered for a loan or an advance payment:

- i. A PW that has a legislative member project that was introduced during this last legislative session and is associated to the work.
- ii. A PW that is ready to start work, but you need funding to get started.
- iii. A member project that doesn't have a PW associated with it, but could require a PW to be established because it is considered permanent work.

b. Member projects that are not considered permanent work but are related to hurricane repairs will also be considered. This will be a grant instead of a loan.

2. Infrastructure repairs for local governments that are not eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

Perhaps there are eligibility issues, you received a determination memo, or there was some other disqualifying reason.

a. Types of infrastructure repair projects that you can apply for to be considered for a grant:

- i. Non-engineered beaches and dirt roads that are not maintained.
- ii. Projects that have a determination memo.

3. **Local and county revenue losses and operating deficits will be considered for grant funding** when the DEO's Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan funding has been exhausted or upon an applicant's denial of that program.
4. If there is funding still available, applications for a 50/50 match for **infrastructure repairs or replacement like roads, sewer, water facilities, beach renourishment, seawalls, or debris removal will be considered for grant funding.** Your jurisdiction will need to show that you have the funding for 50% of the project for the Division to grant the other 50%
5. Based on the type of project you are applying for; your grant manager may request additional information including, but not limited to:
 - a. FEMA Project Worksheets, Member projects.
 - b. Previous 3 years of tax revenue and the current projected tax revenue.
 - c. Proof of damages, pictures of damages, and estimates.
 - d. Engineering recommendations, scopes of work.
 - e. Determination memo(s).
 - f. If there is information that you have relating to your project that you think is important, please provide that information.

FDEM will be using DEMES for application submission and internal review. The DEMES portal opened on June 15, 2023, for application submission and the deadline is July 31, 2023. For more information regarding the Legislative Appropriations Program please visit

[Division of Emergency Management Enterprise Solution | Florida Disaster](#)

Supreme Court Committee To Review Consolidation of Florida's Judicial Circuits

In response to a [letter](#) from Speaker Paul Renner of the Florida House of Representatives the Supreme Court has issued a [proclamation](#) establishing a special committee to consider whether a consolidation of our state's existing judicial circuits is warranted. Renner's letter expresses that the current boundaries of our judicial circuits have been in place since 1969 and suggests that consolidation of judicial circuits might generate substantial cost savings and increase public trust and confidence in the judiciary through greater efficiency and uniformity in the judicial process.

In response – the Court issued a proclamation agreeing with the need to evaluate whether to consolidate Florida's judicial circuits. To that end, the Court has established a Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee and given the committee specific instructions and charges.

- The Committee must limit its findings and recommendations to whether there is a need to consolidate (i.e., reduce the number of) Florida's judicial circuits;
- In making its findings and recommendations, the Committee must assume that district court of appeal boundaries will remain unchanged;
- The Committee's findings and recommendations must be governed by the criteria set out in rule 2.241; and
- Before making its findings and recommendations, the Committee must confer with the chief judges and other representatives of the courts, court budget commissions, The Florida Bar, and

the public, as required by rule 2.241, as well as with other justice system entities it deems appropriate.

The Committee will report its findings and recommendations to the chief justice, through the state courts administrator, by December 1, 2023.

Fifteen individuals are appointed to the Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee for a term to expire on March 29, 2024. The Honorable Jonathan D. Gerber will serve as Chair of the Committee. The Office of the State Courts Administrator will provide staff support.

Note – the inclusion of this item is a Head’s Up for Small Counties in terms of the potential realignment/reduction of existing judicial circuits. The reduction of the number of circuits, if they are recommended, will be a decision of the Florida Legislature.

Headlines Around the State

The Messenger: 'Built on Muscle': The DeSantis Campaign's Playbook to beat Trump and shock the haters

Politico: Two senior DeSantis advisers are leaving to help run outside effort

Vanity Fair: Ron DeSantis may have a successor in the wings: Byron Donalds

Politico: The 2024 field (minus Trump) goes through the Tucker stress test

Herald: It's trans adults, too: GOP candidates now back trans medical restrictions for all ages

Post: Trump gives priority to Palm Beach County, skipping major Iowa conference

The Hill: Trump campaign calls Iraq veteran 'lily-livered' for flipping to DeSantis

Herald: Miami Mayor Suarez says committees backing his presidential bid raised over \$13 million

WaPo: Meet the group critics call 'Moms for Liberty in suits'

Herald Tribune: New College pushes upperclassmen to dorms with mold issues amid influx of student-athletes

FlaPol: Eileen Higgins raises \$91K in month leadup to Miami-Dade Commission re-election bid

Times: Veterans quit DeSantis' Florida State Guard over militialike training

Times: Disney asks a judge to toss a lawsuit from board of DeSantis appointees

FlaPol: On the abortion front, Florida faces a clash between potential ballot proposals in 2024

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis dodges question about national six-week abortion ban

The Hill: DeSantis on 6-week abortion ban: "I had a lot of supporters who were averse to me on this"

Times: DeSantis has spent at least \$15 million so far this year on immigration efforts

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis thinks Vladimir Putin is a 'bad guy,' but says Russian invasion of Ukraine is only about 'territory'

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis calls for 'hard power' response to China threat

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis reappoints lawyer who helped secure 'sweetheart deal' for Jeffrey Epstein to Judicial Nominating Commission

Capitolist: Citizens Insurance aims to shed nearly 200,000 policies amidst rapid growth concerns

The Hill: AAA follows Farmers in limiting coverage in Florida, citing natural disaster threat

City & State FL: Florida CFO Jimmy Patronis takes aim at IRS

On the Docket

MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023

- HOMELESSNESS DISCUSSED - Monday, 2 p.m. Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, will host an event about homelessness in Central Florida. <https://www.mobilize.us/annaforflorida/event/570920/>

TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023

- MIAMI DADE COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 8 a.m. The Miami Dade College Board of Trustees will meet. <https://www.mdc.edu/livestream/>
- LAWMAKER SUBPOENA CASE HEARD- Tuesday, 9 a.m. A panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear arguments in a dispute about whether 14 Florida legislators need to turn over documents in a challenge to a law restricting the way race-related concepts can be taught in universities. Attorneys for the state went to the appeals court after Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker on Feb. 22 rejected part of a request to quash subpoenas seeking information about the 2022 law, which Gov. Ron DeSantis dubbed the “Stop Wrongs To Our Kids and Employees Act,” or “Stop WOKE Act.” Plaintiffs in a constitutional challenge to the law subpoenaed documents from House members as part of an effort to determine if the measure was passed with a racially discriminatory purpose, according to court documents. Elbert P. Tuttle United States Court of Appeals Building, 56 Forsyth St. N.W., Atlanta.
- PASCO-HERNANDO COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, noon The Pasco-Hernando State College Board of Trustees will hold an organizational meeting. Pasco-Hernando State College, Instructional Performing Arts Center, 8657 Old Pasco Road, Wesley Chapel.
- CHINESE LAND OWNERSHIP LAW WEIGHED Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. U.S. District Judge Allen Winsor will hear arguments about a request to block a new Florida law that restricts people from China and six other countries from owning property in the state. Four Chinese people and a real-estate brokerage that serves Chinese clients are seeking a preliminary injunction against the law, approved this year by Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Republican-controlled Legislature. Joseph Woodrow Hatchett U.S. Courthouse and Federal Building, 111 North Adams St., Tallahassee.
- KIDCARE NUMBERS - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Social Services Estimating Conference will update estimates of caseloads in the KidCare subsidized health-insurance program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- TRAUMA SYSTEM DISCUSSED Tuesday, 3 p.m. The Florida Trauma System Advisory Council is scheduled to meet. Call-in number: 850-792-1375. Code: 157180829
- SANTA FE COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 4 p.m. The Santa Fe College Board of Trustees will meet. Santa Fe Kirkpatrick Center, 3737 N.E. 39th Ave., Gainesville.
- CHIPOLA COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. The Chipola College Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet. Chipola College, Public Service Building, Marianna.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023

- CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will start a two-day meeting and take up a series of issues, including a

discussion of chronic wasting disease, which can affect deer. Also, it will consider rule changes for Skyway Fishing Pier State Park and the Weeki Wachee River Springs Protection Zone. Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, 333 First St. S.E., St. Petersburg.

- **EDUCATION BOARD TO MEET** - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The State Board of Education will meet in Orange County and consider approval of a series of proposed rules, including measures that would prohibit use of the social media app TikTok on campuses and bar teachers from asking students about their preferred pronouns. Rosen Shingle Creek, 9939 Universal Blvd., Orlando.
- **MEDICAID CASELOADS** - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Social Services Estimating Conference will update estimates of caseloads in the Medicaid program. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **GEOLOGISTS BOARD** - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The state Board of Professional Geologists is scheduled to meet. Hilton Melbourne, 200 Rialto Place, Melbourne.
- **UNEMPLOYMENT CASES** - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Conference ID: 686974885
- **MEDICAL EXAMINERS** - Wednesday, 10 a.m. The state Medical Examiners Commission will meet. Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate, 1500 Masters Blvd., ChampionsGate.
- **EAST CENTRAL PLANNING COUNCIL** - Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. LYNX Administration Building, 455 North Garland Ave., Orlando.

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

- **REEF RECOVERY** - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will receive an update about coral-reef restoration efforts. Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, 333 First St. S.E., St. Petersburg.
- **CAMPUS SAFETY** - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Association of Florida Colleges will start a two-day “Campus Safety Symposium.” Tallahassee Community College, Florida Institute of Public Safety, 75 College Dr., Havana.
- **DEFENSE ISSUES** - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Defense Support Task Force will meet. The Island Resort at Fort Walton Beach, 1500 Miracle Strip Parkway S.E., Fort Walton Beach.
- **COURT MONEY** - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will analyze what are known as “Article V” revenues, which help fund the court system. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **TRANSPORTATION ISSUES** - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Florida Transportation Commission will meet. The Don CeSar, 3400 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach.
- **REFUGEE ISSUES** - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Broward Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/broward-refugee-task-force-meeting-0>
- **SPACE FLORIDA CANDIDATES** - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Space Florida Board of Directors will interview three finalists to replace longtime president and CEO Frank DiBello, who stepped down June 30. The finalists are Space Force Maj. Gen. John Olson, an assistant to the chief of space operations at the Pentagon; Col. Rob Long, commander of Space Force’s Space Launch Delta 30 and Western Launch and Test Range at Vandenberg Space Force Base; and former Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority Executive Director Dale Nash. Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport, 9300 Jeff Fuqua Blvd., Orlando.
- **TOBACCO TAXES** - Thursday, 1:30 p.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will update estimates of tobacco taxes. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.

- **FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023**

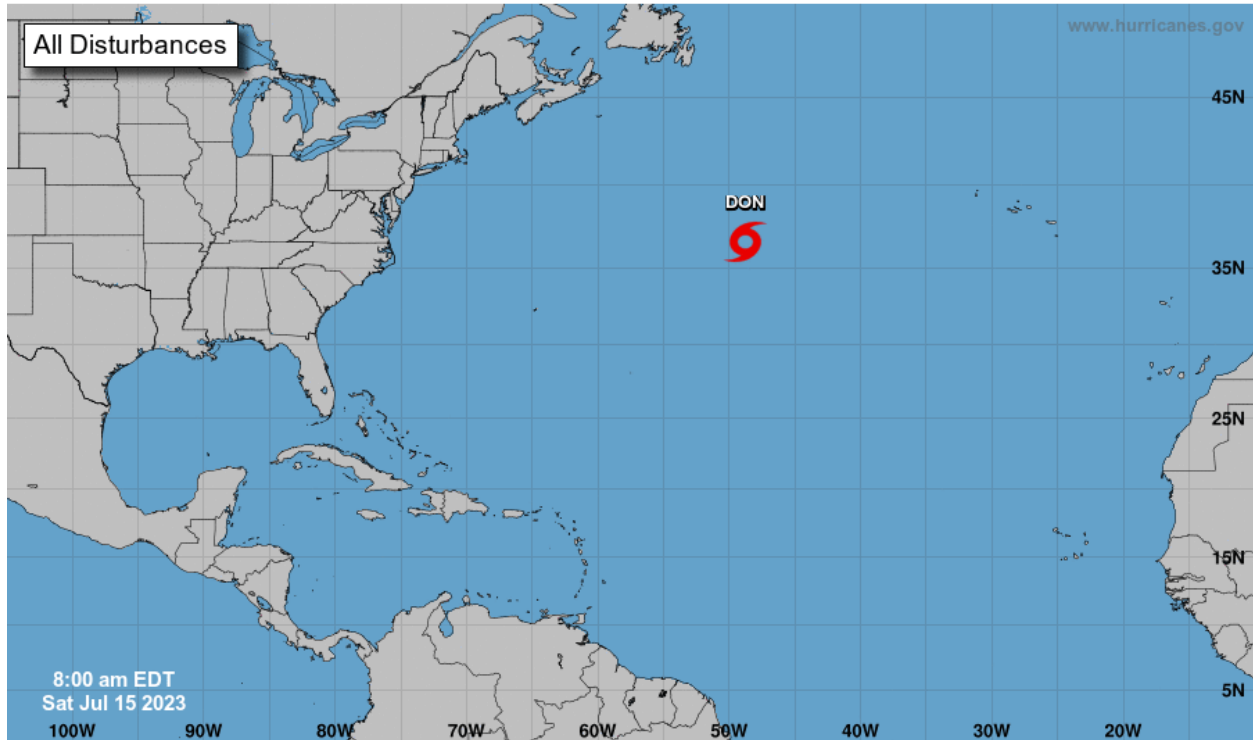
- HOUSING ISSUES - Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Housing Finance Corp. Board of Directors will meet. Orlando Airport Hyatt, 9300 Jeff Fuqua Blvd., Orlando.
- INTEREST RATES - Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Economic Estimating Conference will analyze interest rates used in the appropriations process. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- CAMPUS SAFETY - Friday, 9 a.m. The Association of Florida Colleges will start a two-day "Campus Safety Symposium." Tallahassee Community College, Florida Institute of Public Safety, 75 College Dr., Havana.
- FLORIDA ECONOMY - Friday, 9 a.m. The Economic Estimating Conference will discuss Florida economic issues. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- PODIATRIC BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Podiatric Medicine will meet. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 371896629
- SPEECH-LANGUAGE BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology will meet. Embassy Suites Boca Raton, 661 N.W. 53rd St., Boca Raton.
- UNEMPLOYMENT REPORT - Friday, 10 a.m. The Florida Department of Commerce will release a June unemployment report.
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Friday, 10 a.m. The Palm Beach Area Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/palm-beach-area-refugee-task-force-meeting-0>
- LAWSUIT LIMITS - Friday, noon. The Tampa Tiger Bay Club will host a discussion about a new law (HB 837) aimed at shielding businesses and insurance companies from costly lawsuits. The Cuban Club, 2010 North Avenida Republica de Cuba, Tampa.

Tropical Outlook

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook
National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Seven-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared almost daily by Chris Doolin
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The Briefing is compiled **2-3 times a week** to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School Representing District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email = cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button.

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