



FEMA

June 20, 2016

The Honorable Rick Scott
Governor of Florida
State Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Governor Scott:

This is in response to your June 13, 2016, request for an emergency declaration for the State of Florida as a result of the mass shooting that occurred on June 12, 2016. You specifically requested emergency protective measures (Category B) under the Public Assistance program.

A Presidential emergency declaration under the Stafford Act applies when Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe. Because your request did not demonstrate how the emergency response associated with this situation is beyond the capability of the State and affected local governments or identify any direct federal assistance needed to save lives or protect property, an emergency declaration is not appropriate for this incident. Therefore, I must inform you that your request for an emergency declaration is denied.

Although the Stafford Act is not the appropriate source of funding for those activities in this situation, several Federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and FEMA have resources that may help support the response to this incident absent an emergency declaration under the Stafford Act. We will work closely with you and your staff to identify these additional capabilities.

This denial may be appealed within 30 days after the date of this letter. Any appeal pursuant to 44 CFR § 206.46, along with additional information justifying the appeal, should be submitted to the President through Gracia B. Szczech, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region IV, located at 3003 Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Craig Fugate", written over a faint circular stamp.

W. Craig Fugate
Administrator