Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS

§ 11.76 Claims procedures.

(a) Filing a claim. Applicants shall file claims in writing with the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472. Each written claim shall contain, as a minimum:

(1) Name, address, and place of employment of the claimant;
(2) Place and date of the damage or loss;
(3) A brief statement of the facts and circumstances surrounding the damage or loss;
(4) Cost, date, and place of acquisition of each price of property damaged or lost;
(5) Two itemized repair estimates, or value estimates, whichever is applicable;
(6) Copies of police reports, if applicable;
(7) A statement from the claimant’s supervisor that the loss was incident to service;
(8) A statement that the property was or was not insured;
(9) With respect to claims involving thefts or losses in quarters or other places where the property was reasonably kept, a statement as to what security precautions were taken to protect the property involved;
(10) With respect to claims involving property being used for the benefit of the Government, a statement by the claimant’s supervisor that the claimant was required to provide such property or that the claimant’s providing it was in the interest of the Government; and
(11) Other evidence as may be required.

(b) Single claim. A single claim shall be presented for all lost or damaged property resulting from the same incident. If this procedure causes a hardship, the claimant may present an initial claim with notice that it is a partial claim, an explanation of the circumstances causing the hardship, and an estimate of the balance of the claim and the date it will be submitted. Payment may be made on a partial claim if the adjudicating authority determines that a genuine hardship exists.

(c) Loss in quarters. Claims for property loss in quarters or other authorized places should be accompanied by a statement indicating:

(1) Geographical location;
(2) Whether the quarters were assigned or provided in-kind by the Government;
(3) Whether the quarters are regularly occupied by the claimant;
(4) Names of the authority, if any, who designated the place of storage of the property if other than quarters;
(5) Two itemized repair estimates, or value estimates, whichever is applicable;
(6) Copies of police reports, if applicable;
(7) A statement from the claimant’s supervisor that the loss was incident to service;
(8) A statement that the property was or was not insured;
(9) With respect to claims involving thefts or losses in quarters or other places where the property was reasonably kept, a statement as to what security precautions were taken to protect the property involved;
(10) With respect to claims involving property being used for the benefit of the Government, a statement by the claimant’s supervisor that the claimant was required to provide such property or that the claimant’s providing it was in the interest of the Government; and
(11) Other evidence as may be required.

(d) Filing claim in writing. A claimant shall timely advise the Chief Counsel in writing, of any action which is taken by the carrier or insurer on the claim. On request, the claimant also will furnish such evidence as may be required to enable the United States to enforce the claim.

(e) When a claim is paid by FEMA, the claimant will assign to the United States, to the extent of any payment on the claim accepted by claimant, all rights, title, and interest in any claim against the carrier, insurer, or other party arising out of the incident on which the claim against the Government is based. After payment of the claim by the Government, the claimant will, upon receipt of any payment from a carrier or insurer, pay the proceeds to the United States to the extent of the payment received by the claimant from the United States.

(f) When a claimant recovers for the loss from the carrier or insurer before the claim against the Government under this subpart is settled, the amount or recovery shall be applied to the claim as follows:

(1) When the amount recovered from a carrier, insurer, or other third party is greater than or equal to the claimant’s total loss as determined under this subpart, no compensation is allowable under this subpart.
(2) When the amount recovered is less than such total loss, the allowable amount is determined by deducting the recovery from the amount of such total loss;
(3) For the purpose of this paragraph the claimant’s total loss is to be determined without regard to the $25,000 maximum set forth above. However, if the resulting amount, after making this deduction, exceeds $25,000, the claimant will be allowed only $25,000.
§ 11.77 Settlement of claims.

(a) The Chief Counsel, FEMA, is authorized to settle (consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, and dispose of,}

(5) Measures taken to protect the property; and
(6) Whether the claimant is a local inhabitant.

(d) Loss by theft or robbery. Claims for property loss by theft or robbery should be accompanied by a statement indicating:

(1) Geographical location;
(2) Facts and circumstances surrounding the loss, including evidence of the crime such as breaking and entering, capture of the thief or robber, or recovery of part of the stolen goods; and
(3) Evidence that the claimant exercised due care in protecting the property prior to the loss, including information as to the degree of care normally exercised in the locality of the loss due to any unusual risks involved.

(e) Transportation losses. Claims for transportation losses should be accompanied by the following:

(1) Copies of orders authorizing the travel, transportation, or shipment or a certificate explaining the absence of orders and stating their substance;
(2) Statement in cases where property was turned over to a shipping officer, supply officer, or contract packer indicating:
   (i) Name (or designation) and address of the shipping officer, supply officer, or contract packer indicating;
   (ii) Date the property was turned over;
   (iii) Inventoried condition when the property was turned over;
   (iv) When and where the property was packed and by whom;
   (v) Date of shipment;
   (vi) Copies of all bills of lading, inventories, and other applicable shipping documents;
   (vii) Date and place of delivery to the claimant;
   (viii) Date the property was unpacked by the carrier, claimant, or Government;
   (ix) Statement of disinterested witnesses as to the condition of the property when received and delivered, or as to handling or storage;
   (x) Whether the negligence of any Government employee acting within the scope of his/her employment caused the damage or loss;
   (xi) Whether the last common carrier or local carrier was given a clear receipt, except for concealed damages;
   (xii) Total gross, tare, and new weight of shipment;
   (xiii) Insurance certificate or policy if losses are privately insured;
   (xiv) Copy of the demand on carrier or insured, or both, when required, and the reply, if any;
   (xv) Action taken by the claimant to locate missing baggage or household effects, including related correspondence.

(f) Marine or aircraft disaster. Claims for property losses due to marine or aircraft disaster should be accompanied by a copy of orders or other evidence to establish the claimant's right to be, or to have property on board.

(g) Enemy action, public disaster, or public service. Claims for property losses due to enemy action, public disaster, or public service should be accompanied by:

(1) Copies of orders or other evidence establishing the claimant's required presence in the area involved; and
(2) A detailed statement of facts and circumstances showing an applicable case enumerated in §11.73(c)(8).

(h) Money. Claims for loss of money deposited for safekeeping, transmittal, or other authorized disposition should be accompanied by:

(1) Name, grade, and address of the person or persons who received money and any others involved;
(2) Name and designation of the authority who authorized such person or persons to accept personal funds and the disposition required; and
(3) Receipts and written sworn statements explaining the failure to account for funds or return them to the claimant.

(i) Motor vehicles or mobile homes in transit. Claims for damage to motor vehicles or mobile homes in transit should be accompanied by a copy of orders or other available evidence to establish the claimant's lawful right to have the property shipped and evidence to establish damage in transit.

§ 11.77 Settlement of claims.