



# South Carolina Department of Insurance

1201 Main Street, Suite 1000  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 100105, Columbia, S.C. 29202-3105  
Telephone: (803) 737-6160

MARK SANFORD  
Governor

SCOTT H. RICHARDSON  
Director of Insurance

## Media Advisory

**For Immediate Release  
January 30, 2008**

**Contact: Ann Roberson  
Phone: 803-737-6207**

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### South Carolina Department of Insurance Announces Third Round of SC Safe Home Grant Awards

Scott H. Richardson, Director of the South Carolina Department of Insurance and Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the South Carolina Building Codes Council, announced today the third round of awards of the SC Safe Home Grant Program. "We are pleased to announce these awards and commend these homeowners in their efforts to strengthen their homes and be better prepared against the damaging effects of hurricane force winds," said Director Richardson.

Fifty-one homeowners were awarded grants of up to \$5,000 each to help strengthen their homes against the high winds associated with hurricanes and other natural disasters. During this round of awards, grants were awarded to homeowners living in Berkeley, Charleston, Horry, Beaufort, Georgetown and Dorchester Counties.

The SC Safe Home Grant Program was established this past June as a part of the Omnibus Insurance Reform Act of 2007. The Program, administered by the South Carolina Department of Insurance, provides opportunities for families to increase the safety of their homes against the high winds associated with hurricanes and severe storms.

Retrofitted or strengthened homes are less vulnerable to the effects of severe storms, thereby rendering storm damage less likely and less extreme. Fewer damages result in fewer or lower insurance claims and will ultimately reduce insurance premiums for all South Carolinians.

Homeowners can apply for the program to receive funds up to \$5,000 to make specific mitigation improvements as recommended by a SC Safe Home Certified Wind Inspector. During the pilot phase, the SC Safe Home Grant Program is focusing on those areas that are most vulnerable to the effects of hurricane damaging winds.

Go to the South Carolina Safe Home website at [www.SCSafeHome.com](http://www.SCSafeHome.com) or call 803-737-6117, 803-737-6087 for SC Safe Home Grant Applications and/or additional information.

For questions concerning this information, please contact Ann Roberson, Public Information Officer, at 803-737-6207.

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