



**TOWN OF
STRATFORD** **News Release**

For Immediate Release
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**Mayor Harkins Implores Residents and
Businesses To Report March Storm Damage
To “Infoline” 2-1-1 By May 14, 2010**

*Additional Information Necessary To Appeal President’s Denial Of Individual
Aid*

STRATFORD— Mayor John A. Harkins is encouraging all Stratford residents and business owners to report damage sustained from the storms of March 2010 to the state’s toll-free “infoline” by dialing 2-1-1. The additional reporting will aid Governor Rell in the state’s appeal of President Obama’s decision to deny direct disaster assistance to individuals and businesses.

“We are grateful that Stratford is now eligible for disaster assistance to recoup some of the town’s costs incurred from storm cleanup. However, the President’s decision to deny Connecticut residents and property owners direct Individual Assistance is cruel,” said Mayor Harkins. “Governor Rell is actively assembling an appeal on behalf of municipalities affected by the storms, and needs anyone who suffered damage to their property to call 2-1-1 and answer a few short questions about the losses they sustained. Even if you have previously reported damage to the state or town, it is imperative that you call 2-1-1 BEFORE May 14th at 6:00PM. The information you provide will work to ensure our appeal is successful and property owners get the direct relief they deserve.”

The federal government declared portions of Connecticut, including all of Fairfield County, a major disaster area on April 26, 2010. This declaration will allow the Town of Stratford to recoup fire, police, and public works expenditures associated with the storm response, but contains no relief for individual property owners. President Obama denied Connecticut’s application for Individual Assistance to property owners on April 27, 2010, a decision which the State of Connecticut is in the process of appealing.

Infoline will be available to collect damage assessment data 24 hours a day through the May 14, 2010 deadline.

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