



**Board of County Commissioners**

County of Hunterdon  
71 Main Street, Building #1  
PO Box 2900  
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: September 2, 2021**

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**Andrew C. Russano, Aide to the Commissioners**

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## **Hunterdon County Declares Disaster Seeks FEMA Resources In Response to Storm Damage**

Hunterdon County has issued a disaster declaration and is working with Congressman Tom Malinowski to obtain Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resources to aid the County, following the loss of life, flooding, and significant damage caused by the remnants Hurricane Ida, Board of Commissioners Director Susan J. Soloway announced today.

Soloway said in a statement, “First and foremost our thoughts and prayers are with the families and loved ones of those whose lives were taken by the storm.”

According to the Hunterdon County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) five persons are known to have died as a result of the storm as of 9 am September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Soloway stated, “I am advised that the flooding is of historic proportions and outside assistance from FEMA is needed right now.

The New Jersey State Police Task Force 1 and Burlington County’s OEM responded with assistance yesterday, at the request of the County, and their help with over 300 water rescues, throughout the course of the flooding, is greatly appreciated.

Hunterdon County Department of Public Works and Engineering is presently engaged in cleaning up county roads and is assessing the structural damage to many bridges and culverts. There are numerous roadway detours, particularly where bridges are unpassable, and the public is advised to limit any travel within the county at this time.

The County has activated the sheltering task force that is prepared to provide shelter for displaced persons, with the appropriate public health protocols, if needed.



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It goes without saying that recovery will take time. There could be tens of millions of dollars in damage to county structures.

The Board offers our thanks to the many members of Rescue Squads, Fire Departments and law enforcement, as well as the County and Municipal OEM's and Public Works Departments, that have been working around the clock to assist individuals caught in the flooding in their homes and on the roadways.

Just as in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hunterdon County's emergency response operations' preparedness training has proven invaluable to the public as we were hit with a once in a lifetime storm."