



State of New York
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

CESAR A. PERALES
SECRETARY OF STATE

September 13, 2011

Dear Local Government Official,

In the weeks and months ahead, local governments across New York State will continue to face significant challenges. The devastation caused by recent storm events, including Hurricane Irene, only adds to the growing list of issues we must tackle. Each day we are all challenged to meet important needs of the public. Right now in many areas of New York, this means helping with storm clean-up and getting homeowners and businesses back on their feet. During these particularly difficult times, it is important for you to know that the Department of State is ready and prepared to assist you with rebuilding and revitalizing your community.

The Department of State is a primary resource for local governments. Our divisions of Local Government Services, Community Services, Code Enforcement, and others can provide assistance in many ways that may help you meet your needs. I have directed Deputy Secretary of State Dede Scozzafava to make certain that our staff is ready and able to respond to your requests. Further, if we aren't able to best assist you, then we will refer you to the appropriate agency or resource to get the answers you need.

I encourage you to contact the Department of State's Division of Local Government Services by calling (518) 473-3355 or (800) 367-8488. In addition, you may be able to find immediate answers and resources on our website at www.dos.state.ny.us/LG. We look forward to partnering with you as we make government work for the people.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cesar A. Perales". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cesar A. Perales
Secretary of State