FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Ends Hurricane Matthew State of Emergency

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. – Cumberland County has lifted the state of emergency declared Oct.7 in preparation for Hurricane Matthew. Marshall Faircloth, chairman of the Board of Commissioners, signed a Termination of State of Emergency declaration today at 10 a.m.

The last emergency shelter, which was housed at Westover Recreation Center, closed on Saturday.

More than 11,000 residents applied for Disaster Food and Nutrition Benefits at the Department of Social Services Oct. 22-26. When combined with the more than 8,000 replacement food stamp affidavits submitted earlier in the month, the department has assisted almost 20,000 citizens affected by the hurricane since Oct. 8.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has revised the hours for the Disaster Recovery Center at the Department of Social Services at 1225 Ramsey St. The new hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. until further notice.

Residents who suffered losses and damage as a result of Hurricane Matthew can get information about state and federal assistance at the center, which is staffed by representatives from FEMA, N.C. Emergency Management and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Disaster survivors may register the following ways:

- Online at <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u>
- Call the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362**. Applicants who use **711** or Video Relay Service may also call **800-621-3362**. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a **TTY** may call **800-462-7585**.

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