## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE def# 11/15/2012 OCEAN COUNTY CLERK PROVIDES COPIES OF PROPERTY DEEDS TO COUNTY PROPERTY OWNERS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE SANDY

OCEAN COUNTY County Clerk Scott M. Colabella announced today that his office will waive the fee for copies of deeds to Ocean County property owners who have been impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

Colabella said property owners who are dealing with flood damage, and other repair work since the aftermath of the storm, and require copies of their property deeds for insurance or Federal Emergency Management Assistance (FEMA) claims can contact either the County Clerk's Toms River or Southern Service Center office to obtain a copy of their deed at no charge.

"Important documents, such as deeds to property, are often lost or become damaged in storms like Sandy," Colabella said. "My office staff is ready to assist our residents in providing a copy of this document so that this is one less item they need to address as they work to put their homes and lives back together."

Property owners contacting the Ocean County Clerk's Office need to provide the following information to obtain a certified copy of their deed:

Property Owner name

Property address

Approximate date of purchase or deed transfer.

Property owners can visit the County Clerk Deed Room at the Toms River Office at the Ocean County Court House located at 118 Washington Street in Toms River or call (732) 929-2053. In addition, property owners can visit the Clerk's Office at the Southern Service Center located at 179 South Main Street in Manahawkin or call (609) 597-1500. Property owners can also send their requests via e-mail to scolabella@co.ocean.nj.us to obtain copies of their deed.

"Ocean County wants to provide as much assistance to property owners as possible," said Freeholder John P. Kelly, Director of Law and Public Safety. "Providing assistance in obtaining these important documents is one way we can help."