

ATC-26-3A

**U.S. Postal Service Field Manual:
Post Flood and Wind Storm
Safety Evaluation of Postal Buildings
(Interim)**

Prepared for

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Office of Design and Construction
Design Division
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by

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Preface

In 1989, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), as part of a national emergency preparedness program, requested the Applied Technology Council (ATC), already under contract to USPS, to develop procedures for postdisaster safety evaluation of buildings. The procedures were to be based on those already developed for earthquakes under the ATC-20 project *Procedures for Postearthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings* (ATC, 1989). The ATC-20 report (ATC, 1989) was written specifically for volunteer structural engineers and local building officials.

This ATC-26-3A report provides interim procedures and guidelines for determining if damaged buildings can be safely occupied after damaging winds, storms, and floods. Also included are recommended posting procedures and placards.

Lindbergh and Associates, an engineering firm with experience in postdisaster evaluation of buildings and disaster damage mitigation, served as a primary ATC-26-3A project subcontractor. Lindbergh and Associates adapted procedures for wind and flood damage evaluations from the seismic procedures developed for ATC-20. Dale C. Perry and W. Lynn Beason provided consultation regarding wind damage evaluation.

Members of the Project Engineering Panel who provided general review and guidance for the project are listed in Appendix A, which also includes a list of ATC-20 participants.

ATC gratefully acknowledges the valuable direction and cooperation provided by Donald Evick, USPS Program Manager. ATC also acknowledges the sponsors of the ATC-20 report: the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Christopher Rojahn—ATC Executive Director

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