DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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Voluntary Campaign Management Office

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief

The following guidance regarding Hurricane Katrina disaster relief is offered to all Services and Agencies. Many DoD employees have inquired about the best way to provide assistance to those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Defense Department employees are advised that the best means for providing immediate assistance, prior to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), is through cash contributions made directly to relief organizations which are working in the affected areas. In a recent statement, President Bush identified two national organizations, the American Red Cross (http://www.redcross.org) and the Salvation Army (http://www.salvationarmyusa.org), which have both mobilized to care for those in need. Both are participating charities in the CFC this year and their respective websites have more information on how to assist those in need in the affected areas.

In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed a list (http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=18473) and provided instructions on how to provide immediate cash donations to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina on its website. Many of these organizations identified by FEMA are also national CFC participating charities.

Since the recovery from Hurricane Katrina will be a long process, donations through the CFC can be accomplished once your local campaign begins. Service and Agency campaigns are authorized to begin as of September 1st, 2005. CFC brochures will soon be distributed within the workplace allowing DoD employees the opportunity to give through the CFC to many worthwhile national charitable organizations, including those that provide disaster relief. Employees are advised that donations to those charities providing disaster relief through CFC may not be earmarked specifically towards relief efforts, however, contributions to the designated charities may still be used for disaster relief or to replenish the particular charitable organization's funds at the organization's discretion.

Further guidance may be forthcoming as relief efforts mature and will be forwarded accordingly. POC is the undersigned at (703) 699-1841, or louis.torchia@whs.mil.

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