Controller Westly Urges State Employees to Contribute to Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief

SACRAMENTO – State Controller Steve Westly today joined California’s constitutional officers in encouraging state employees to contribute to the state’s Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Campaign.

“California state employees – and all Californians – have always come forward to help others in need,” Westly said. “This Campaign makes it easier for those of us who want to reach out to our fellow Americans in the wake of hurricane Katrina.”

The Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Campaign permits state employees to make contributions to organizations involved in Katrina relief efforts through monthly payroll deductions.

State employees who wish to make a contribution can download a payroll deduction form at www.sco.ca.gov.

Controller Westley waived the normal processing and administrative fees normally charged for such payroll deductions. Westly also pledged that the Controller’s office would devote every resource necessary to ensure that the payroll deductions are processed as quickly as possible.

“I’ve directed my staff to do everything necessary to expedite these payroll deductions. We want to get these contributions to the people who need them as soon as possible,” Westly added.

A copy of the Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Campaign letter follows.

- More -
Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Campaign

September 13, 2005

Dear State Worker,

Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath have brought tremendous loss and suffering to hundreds of thousands of people in the Gulf Coast Region of the United States. While the magnitude of this disaster is unprecedented, it is no match for the generosity of California's state workers, and indeed all Californians. In fact, Californians have already donated more than $100 million to charitable organizations working on Katrina relief efforts and state employees contribute millions of dollars annually for the California State Employees Charitable Campaign.

Recognizing that recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast Region are going to take significant resources and could take several years, the need for a sustained giving campaign is clear. That is why we are asking all California state workers to join us as founding members of California's Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Campaign. Thanks to the United Way and its underwriters, 100 percent of the contributions made through the Campaign will be provided to the relief agency or agencies you designate on your contribution form (see attachments). Now is the time for us to stand side by side and help our fellow Americans.

If you would like your contribution to the Campaign to begin with your September paycheck, please return the attached contribution form to the State Controller's Office by Friday, September 16, 2005.

Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Cruz Bustamante
Lieutenant Governor

Bill Lockyer
California Attorney General

Steve Westly
California State Controller

John Garamendi
Insurance Commissioner

Bruce McPherson
Secretary of State

Jack O'Connell
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Phil Angelides
California State Treasurer

Please return your completed forms to:
State Controller Steve Westly
Payroll Deductions Unit
PO Box 942850
Sacramento, CA 94250-5878
Please type or print legibly, using a ball point pen (press hard).

Please indicate below that you want to authorize a monthly payroll deduction through the December 2005 pay period. This deduction will occur in your next regular pay.

A. MONTHLY PAYROLL DEDUCTION in the amount of $_____.00*

B. I authorize the state controller to process the payroll deduction above.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED (INK ONLY)  DATE

C. DESIGNATION(S) TO THE SPECIFIC ORGANIZATIONS ASSISTING WITH DISASTER RELIEF

I wish to make the following designation(s):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISASTER RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS</th>
<th>AMOUNT ($2 minimum per organization)</th>
<th>DISASTER RELIEF ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>AMOUNT ($2 minimum per organization)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Alabama Governor's Emergency Relief Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>6. Mississippi Hurricane Recovery Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. American Red Cross</td>
<td></td>
<td>7. Salvation Army</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. AmeriCares</td>
<td></td>
<td>8.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the blank spaces provided above, you may add contributions to additional charitable organizations engaged in Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. We recommend that you research any charitable organization to which you contribute. You can find information online at the charitable giving section of the California Attorney General’s Web site.

D. I authorize my contributions to be distributed as stated above.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED (INK ONLY)  DATE

If you wish to have your donation acknowledged, provide your home address below.

Street  City  State  Zip Code

(______)  Phone Number  Email Address

Please forward this form to:

State Controller Steve Westly
Payroll Deductions Unit
PO Box 942850
Sacramento, CA 94250-5878

If you would like your contribution to begin with your September paycheck, please submit your contribution form to the State controller by September 16, 2005.