Hurricane Harvey Relief

California Legal Update Subscribers: Everyone is aware of the devastation currently taking place in Texas due to Hurricane Harvey. Especially hit is the City of Houston. Among the many victims are the law enforcement officers of that city who aren’t able to evacuate, being instead tasked with not only maintaining some semblance of order, but the difficult job of rescuing victims. They do this as their own homes and property are being lost to the flood waters. The danger inherent in such work is evidenced in the loss of at least one Houston officer—Sgt. Steve Perez, a 34-year veteran—who gave his own life, drowning in his vehicle as he attempted to get to work.

Below is a plea for help from Ray Hunt, President of the Houston Police Officers’ Union, relayed to us via a reputable California law firm. As you read his message, you will find that he is asking for financial assistance in support of our law enforcement partners of the Houston P.D., who have been, and continue to be, sacrificing so much in the service of their city and its citizens during the Harvey Hurricane disaster.

As noted below, donations can be made to “Assist the Officer, Inc.”, a 501 (C)3 (tax deductible) charity established 30 years ago in Houston to provide aid to law enforcement personnel during these kinds of disasters, through their website at www.assisttheofficer.com. I’m asking you here to consider making such a donation, and show Houston P.D. that those of us in California law enforcement are thinking of them during this time of great need, and that they can at least take some comfort in knowing that we here “have their six.”

To Our Brother & Sister Officers:

As you know the City of Houston is in the midst of a catastrophe like we have never seen before. The scope of the damage will not be determined for weeks, maybe longer. We have already lost
so much including Sgt. Steve Perez, a 34-year veteran of the Houston PD, who drowned in his car trying to get to work at 4 am in the morning on Sunday, August 27th.

So many of you have reached out to ask how you can help and we are very grateful. Right now sending money to assist those officers who lost their homes and/or vehicles is the most helpful for us. We ask that you send donations to "Assist the Officer, Inc." a 501 (C)3 charity established 30 years ago in Houston to provide aid to law enforcement people during these kinds of disasters. ([www.assisttheofficer.com](http://www.assisttheofficer.com)). There is a link on the site for Harvey Relief.

I can assure you that 100% of whatever you send will go directly to Houston-area law enforcement people who have suffered severe losses from the floods. Upon request we will be happy to provide you with a complete report on donations and expenditures if you need it.

We will keep you updated on the situation as it progresses and please accept our heartfelt thanks for whatever you can do to help us. If you have suffered a loss in this terrible incident, please just send your prayers.

Make your check out to: Assist the Officer, Inc. . Indicate on the check that the donation is for "Hurricane Harvey Relief for Law Enforcement"

Mail your check to 1600 State Street, Houston, TX 77007

Thank you and God bless.

Ray Hunt, President
Houston Police Officers’ Union