



LOCAL 478 • CONNECTICUT

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

1965 Dixwell Avenue • Hamden, Connecticut 06514

September 5, 2017

Dear Local 478 Brothers and Sisters,

By now, I'm sure you've all seen the horrific pictures depicting the devastation that was caused by Hurricane Harvey in parts of Texas and Louisiana. The images of homes and cars being washed away and people being rescued are reminders of just how punishing mother nature can be, both in the eye of the storm and in the aftermath. For the past 16 years, the members of Local 478 have pulled together to help our brother and sister operating engineers in other Locals during their time of need. We came together after 9-11; we came together after Hurricane Katrina; and we came together after the Sandy Hook tragedy.

When we, Local 478 brothers and sisters, have been called to action, we have always responded to the best of our ability. To that end, IUOE General President James Callahan recently sent out a letter to all U.S and Canadian Locals where he explained, "The catastrophic destruction wreaked by Hurricane Harvey in Texas and the southern United States has impacted millions of Americans, including thousands of our Operating Engineers and their families. The stories and images coming out of that area can't adequately relay the devastation inflicted upon so many over such a large area. The loss suffered, both emotionally and financially, will be felt for years to come."

General President Callahan further stated, "As has been true throughout our proud history, Operating Engineers affected by these types of events have also been among the first responders in times of crisis. Right now, thousands of our members are using their training and skills to work around the clock in the recovery efforts, even though they have suffered similar fates to those they are assisting."

After reading General President Callahan's letter asking us for assistance (while also following the looming threat of Hurricane Irma to Florida and the Carolinas), it was determined that the most effective way for Local 478 Operating Engineers to help would be if we collected donations through our Local 478 Charities Fund and then forwarded them to the International. I understand that after years of a stagnate construction economy, many of our Local 478 families are just now seeing a return to economic stability while others are living on a fixed income; however, I would still like to encourage every Local 478 brother and sister to send in a donation in whatever amount you can afford to the Local 478 Charities/Hurricane Relief Fund.

Please send in your donation as soon as you can since recovery for so many of these families is dependent on their ability to receive financial help as soon as possible. **We have set a deadline of November 1, 2017, for collecting contributions and sending them to our International who will distribute them to affected operating engineers.** Please help us help them by filling out the bottom of this letter, cutting off the form and returning it along with your check made payable to **Local 478 Charities** for Hurricane Relief in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity,

Craig

Craig Metz
Business Manager

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: LOCAL 478 CHARITIES
Please Note Hurricane Relief Fund on check memo

Checks can be returned in the enclosed envelope or mailed to: Local 478 Charities
Hurricane Relief Fund
1965 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT 06514

NAME _____ Please accept our donation in the amount of _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

A letter confirming your tax deductible donation will be sent to you by December 1, 2017.