

NEWS



MASSACHUSETTS
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MBA SETS UP HOTLINE FOR VICTIMS OF KATRINA

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association has set up a telephone hotline to accept calls from all Massachusetts attorneys who wish to offer free legal services to any person displaced by Hurricane Katrina who is now living temporarily in the Commonwealth.

The hotline will enable the MBA to organize attorneys available for volunteer work and to assist the MBA in coordinating legal services being offered to displaced persons.

“Every member of our association wants to help those whose lives have been uprooted by this catastrophe,” said MBA President Warren Fitzgerald. “This is what we in the legal profession do every day – help people in need.”

Fitzgerald added that there has been an outpouring of concern and offers to help from attorneys from throughout Massachusetts. Many of these attorneys are making financial commitments to local, state and national relief organizations.

The hotline numbers are 617-338-0530 in the Boston area; 877-676-6500 toll-free outside area code 617; or email to membership@massbar.org.

The MBA is coordinating its effort with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, along with other bar associations in the Commonwealth.

The American Bar Association also has established a link on its web site (www.abanet.org/katrina) that offers attorneys throughout the United States opportunities to volunteer their services.

The MBA also announced that all collections at its September 7 annual blood drive, held in conjunction with the American Red Cross, will be sent to aid Hurricane Katrina victims.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.

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