



**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS®**

900 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202.833.7000
<http://www.ibew.org>

EDWIN D. HILL
International President

JON F. WALTERS
International
Secretary-Treasurer

September 2, 2005

To: All IBEW Local Union Business Managers in the United States
and in Canada

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

We have witnessed one of the most catastrophic weather related events to have occurred in the United States in recent history. Hurricane Katrina has caused the total destruction of homes, businesses, and personal property in many of our southern states and most important, the loss of human life. Many of our IBEW members living in cities such as New Orleans, Louisiana; Mobile, Alabama; Biloxi and Gulfport, Mississippi have lost their homes and personal belongings and have been forced to relocate to other areas. The devastation of buildings and other structures has also caused the loss of jobs, which compounds the problem by denying our members the financial means to feed, clothe and to shelter themselves and their families. Unfortunately, all indications predict a slow, painful and difficult recovery process. Proudly, many of our IBEW utility workers, linemen, tree trimmers and other members of the outside branch have already been deployed to restore power and other services to those areas. We pray for their safety and wish them success so that they may also return to their families.

The IBEW is a union which is known for its concern for its members. We know that all IBEW members join us in our expression of sympathy to all IBEW members and to all of the other folks in that region who have suffered so greatly. The IBEW is also known as a union of action that rallies to help and to protect its members and the community.

We are calling for the assistance of all IBEW local unions and members to provide any help possible to aid our members who have been devastated by this catastrophe. We are in the process of establishing a relief fund for this purpose. Checks may be made payable to "The IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund" and sent to the following:

The IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund
Chevy Chase Bank
7501 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

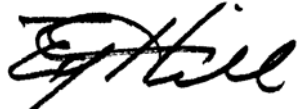
The **ibew.org website** will dedicate an area that will provide information on this relief fund and how to make contributions. In addition, local unions and members can access the website to pledge other support, such as temporary housing or available jobs. Please do not send any items such as clothing or food to the International Office at this time. Local unions surrounding the affected areas will be asked to establish relief centers to communicate and to reach out to IBEW members needing assistance.



We will be coordinating all efforts through the Fifth District International Vice President's Office to ensure the proper handling and disbursement of all aid. Please contact your respective local union members and ask them to participate in the IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

With best wishes, we are

Fraternally yours,



Edwin D. Hill
International President



Jon F. Walters
International Secretary-Treasurer

EDH/JFW:nlc