



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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**TERRI L. McDONALD**  
Chief Probation Officer

September 1, 2017

TO: Probation Department Employees

FROM: Terri L. McDonald  
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: **Happy Labor Day and Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts**

Greetings,

I want to take a moment to express my sincerest appreciation to all of you for the ongoing dedication and commitment you have poured into work every day. The concept of Labor Day is to recognize the American workforce and to honor its significance to the progress of our society. With that said, I recognize and thank each of you for your contribution to the progress of the Probation Department and our communities. Enjoy this holiday that pays tribute to you, the American worker.

I send a special thanks to those of you who work in our halls and camps this holiday weekend. I know first-hand the sacrifice you and your families make when you work in the facilities while many of us are home with friends and families. I also know we have work to do together to make your jobs a little easier.

As we enter this time of recognition of the hard work you all do, we must also not forget about our family, friends, loved ones and neighbors in Texas, who are experiencing the severe flooding and aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. I watch with a profound sense of respect for the community that has come together to save thousands of lives but also with a deep sense of sorry and pain for the work that lies ahead of families and their communities. I know we can help, even from such a far distance.

In addition to your thoughts and prayers, please consider donating whatever you can to help provide the much-needed support for people who have been displaced from more than 100,000 homes in the path of destruction wrought by Hurricane and Tropical Storm Harvey. If you haven't already, please consider donating money or even blankets, socks, or other supplies to a church or local organization that is collecting for this effort. No amount or gift is insignificant and the lives you will impact will be enormous.

The County of Los Angeles has partnered with the American Red Cross to assist in aiding the victims of this tragedy who are facing a long road to rebuilding their lives. We know this because Los Angeles has suffered from our own catastrophic events, and the nation helped us.

The ways in which we can help are as follows:

The Greater Houston Community Foundation is the charity recommended by the City of Houston and surrounding Harris County: <http://ghcf.org/hurricane-relief/>.

Or you can click on RedCross.org<<http://redcross.org/>> and follow the instructions. All donations are tax deductible.

It's during times like these that we should be consciously grateful for our health, stability, and security. September is **National Preparedness Month**, so now is a perfect time to focus and ensure that your own households are prepared for any natural or manmade disasters. Are your emergency kits updated, smoke detectors functioning, water and battery supplies well-stocked? If you stay prepared, you never have to worry about getting prepared. I urge you to spend some time this week double-checking your own preparedness.

If you need ideas about how to be prepared for anything from extreme heat and fires, to earthquakes and flooding, please go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

Thank you for your time, generosity, public service and commitment to this great county and nation. Enjoy your deserved time off; be safe, and good to yourself and to each other.