



The Court Families Assistance Fund

c/o THE CENTER FOR COURT INNOVATION, 520 8TH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10018

December 15, 2017

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Over the past two months, members of New York's legal community have taken a number of steps to help the people of Puerto Rico recover from devastation caused by Hurricane Maria. Many members of the bar have volunteered to provide pro bono assistance with respect to disaster aid claims and other legal issues arising from the hurricane. The New York State court system has been providing technical disaster recovery assistance to the courts of Puerto Rico.

In addition, the New York State Unified Court System has been working with the court system of Puerto Rico to provide assistance to the court employees and judges who suffered great damage in the storm. Toward that end, they have reactivated the Court Families Assistance Fund. As you may recall, the Fund was originally established to assist UCS judges, employees and their families who were victims of the 2001 attack on the World Trade Center. In 2005, the Fund assisted court employees and their families in the Gulf Region in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and again, in 2012, the Fund provided aid to members of the UCS court family who suffered losses when Hurricane Sandy hit the eastern seaboard.

We urge the members of the New York State legal community to support the Fund's efforts to assist the judges and court employees of Puerto Rico during this difficult time. Many court employees and judges completely lost their homes and possessions. Providing assistance to these members of the Puerto Rican court community is a key part of helping the court system itself recover and return to full operations.

We ask that you forward this appeal to the members of your association and request that they support this cause.

The Court Families Assistance Fund was established in partnership with the Center for Court Innovation and the Fund for the City of New York, a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations to the Assistance Fund are tax deductible as permitted by law. You may contribute to the Assistance Fund online by visiting the New York State Unified Court System's website at: www.nycourts.gov You may also send a check payable to:

Court Families Assistance Fund/FCNY

c/o Center for Court Innovation
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