

Saxena White in the Community



“Saxena White dedicates this section to all of those affected by the recent hurricanes.

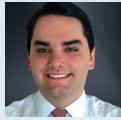
We’ve worked hard with clients and employees to minimize any unnecessary stress during this difficult time.

But where there are difficult times, there are also acts of compassion.

In this section we would like to highlight the personal experiences of those who weathered the storm, and those who rose to the occasion.”

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Written by
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On September 20, 2017, Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico as a Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 155 mph. Hurricane Maria, the most powerful storm to strike the U.S. territory in nearly 90 years, crippled Puerto Rico's telecommunications systems, destroyed its power grid, and left communities facing widespread devastation. Residents were left scrambling for essential supplies, such as water, food, fuel and cash. Some areas of Puerto Rico are likely to be without electricity for 4 to 6 months. And according to some estimates, Hurricane Maria could cost Puerto Rico as much as \$95 billion in damage.

The devastation in Puerto Rico hit particularly close to home for me. I was born and raised on the island, and the majority of my friends and family still live in Puerto Rico. I recall speaking with my father, who lives in San Juan, countless times during the course of the storm. Just a few hours into the hurricane, his storm shutters had flown off and the sliding doors in his living room had shattered. Thankfully, he was able to make it through the hurricane unharmed. When we spoke the following morning, he mentioned that the devastation on the island was "unlike anything he had ever seen."

My father-in-law, who is a member of the Puerto Rico State Guard, described how thousands of residents in the island's mountainous regions were



isolated and unable to leave their towns to gather food and water. After the passage of Hurricane Maria, running water was knocked out for more than half of the island's 3.4 million residents, leaving medical experts concerned about a possible spike in infectious diseases in the coming weeks. The lack of electricity and running water has also shattered Puerto Rico's health system, with the primitive conditions at some of the island's hospitals leading to patient deaths.

However, despite the daunting task that lies ahead, Puerto Rico will surely come out of this stronger than ever.

From Compassion to Action: Rebuilding Florida

Although the storm has passed, destruction lingers and returning to life-as-normal is no easy feat. Roofing companies and other contractors are backed up until next year, and many residents in Florida would be without help until 2018 if it wasn't for the efforts of volunteer organizations. Recently, our very own attorney Jorge Amador volunteered his time, as well as blood, sweat, and tears, to the Hurricane Irma disaster relief efforts.

Jorge joined up with Team Rubicon – a non-profit organization with two objectives: helping disaster areas and helping veterans. Having attended Norwich University, Jorge appreciates the sense of comradery Team Rubicon provides and recalls a "Welcome to

the Tribe" mentality extended to all volunteers, regardless of background.

No job too dirty, volunteers assisted in anything ranging from muck-ups and

"I am so thankful to all of you who go out of your way to help others. It restores my faith in people. You have relieved a lot of stress for me by tarping my roof and keeping my home safe... bless you all!"

- Anonymous letter from Brevard County local to Jorge Amador

He was on the ground with them, participating in recovery operations and rebuilding the communities in Brevard County. "It's run like a military organization" says Jorge "where you feel like there's nothing you can't do."

roof tarping, to operating chainsaws and managing software.

Jorge has been amazed at the amount of appreciation he's received from the local people. During his time

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volunteering, Jorge was part of an assessment team where he got to work face to face with those most affected by the storm. Seeing many families with broken homes, he wishes more people knew just how much four days' worth of

volunteering can change someone's life. Saxena White is proud to have selfless employees like Jorge and appreciates everything he's done for our community.

The New Face of Disaster Relief: Team Rubicon

Team Rubicon's story began in 2010 with two missions in mind: helping disaster areas and helping veterans. They have helped reintegrate veterans into society and reestablish a sense of purpose that many have lost. Combining the skills and expertise from military personnel with those of first responders, Team Rubicon has quickly risen the ranks of world relief organizations.

For those we can't directly help we rely on selfless employees like Jorge and inspiring volunteers like those at Team Rubicon. Because of their vital contribution to rebuilding Florida, Saxena White has decided to create

a fundraising page in their honor. The company plans on matching every dollar donated to this fund, in hopes that any future disaster will be met head on by a strong and prepared Team Rubicon.

You can find Saxena White's Disaster Relief Fund at fundraise.teamrubiconusa.org/saxenawhite or go to our website at www.saxenawhite.com and follow the link we've provided.

Saxena White looks forward to matching your contribution! We truly appreciate any support you can provide to this great cause.



For questions regarding this publication, please contact Adam Warden at awarden@saxenawhite.com.

Upcoming Events

FLORIDA PUBLIC PENSION
TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION
WINTER TRUSTEES SCHOOL
Orlando, Florida
January 28-31, 2018

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC PENSION
FUND ATTORNEYS
2018 WINTER SEMINAR
Tempe, Arizona
February 21-23, 2018

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL
WINTER MEETING
Washington, DC
February 26-28, 2018

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC PENSION TRUSTEES
5TH ANNUAL
TRUSTEES SCHOOL
Macon, Georgia
March 19-21, 2018

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
New York, New York
May 13-16, 2018

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