



AMVETS

American Veterans
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA
Commander

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September 11, 2019

Department of Florida AMVETS Family,

Last week's weather with Hurricane Dorian got us all to start our emergency planning; where will Dorian hit Florida, will we evacuate, do we have all our emergency supplies, and the list goes on and on. We now know the aftermath – we were extremely lucky. However, our hearts go out to all the people in the Bahamas, now struggling to get their lives back in order. Their challenges are way more significant now. Much the same as our members still recovering from Hurricane Michael in the Panhandle.

Two years ago, our Department Service Foundation started a Disaster Relief Fund. Assistance has been provided to Hurricane Irma victims. Last year they supported Hurricane Michael victims, including two posts nearly demolished. This year it was the threat of Hurricane Dorian with now more active hurricanes predicted.

PDC Arnett prepared a letter on behalf of the Department of Florida Service Foundation asking for financial support. Had Hurricane Dorian come across Florida, I am sure it would have exhausted the Disaster Relief Fund. This fund is used strictly for disaster relief – it is restricted for disaster relief only.

As your Department Commander, my program this year is the Department of Florida Service Foundation Disaster Relief Fund. My goal, and my success, with your assistance, is to double the amount of money currently in the Disaster Relief Fund. The fund is currently at \$70,000.

I feel we need to take care of our Florida AMVETS Family. The Disaster Relief Fund will provide the necessary assistance should one of the Hurricanes decide to strike Florida. Please think about a project for your post where the proceeds can be donated to the Disaster Relief Fund.

Donations should be forwarded to:
Donald Rhindress, Treasure
AMVETS Department of Florida Service Foundation
1529 Aqueduct Lane
Key Largo, FL 33037

Yours in Service
Tom Payton, Commander
AMVETS Department of Florida