# PRESS GUIDE

# DISASTER RELIEF CENTER BEST PRACTICES

In light of the recent devastating fires impacting our community, we wish to provide guidance for media representatives visiting the Local Resource Center. It is paramount that all press members exercise the utmost respect and sensitivity towards the victims and families affected by this tragedy.

As a reminder, the following guidelines are to be strictly adhered to:

## 1. Respect for Victims:

We ask all members of the press to approach individuals with empathy and understanding. Please refrain from intrusive questioning or filming that may exacerbate the distress of those affected. Prioritize the dignity and emotional well-being of all individuals you encounter.

# 2. Accommodating Environment:

The Local Resource Center is designed to support residents in a time of need. We encourage press representatives to create a conducive atmosphere for families seeking assistance. Please ensure that your presence does not disrupt the services being provided.

### 3. Photography and Interviews:

While we understand the importance of capturing the story, we urge all photographers and journalists to seek explicit consent from individuals before taking photographs or conducting interviews. This practice not only respects privacy but also fosters trust between the press and the community.

Waivers for Photojournalists: To facilitate a smooth experience for both residents and media, we recommend implementing waivers for photojournalists. These waivers will outline the conditions under which photographs can be taken, ensuring that the rights of individuals are respected and that the focus remains on recovery and support.

#### 5. Coordination with Staff:

Please coordinate with Local Resource Center staff when covering events or conducting interviews. They are here to assist you and can provide context to ensure accurate and respectful reporting.

Our collective goal is to support the recovery efforts of our community while ensuring that the dignity of those affected is upheld. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this sensitive time.

For further inquiries or to arrange interviews with designated spokespersons, please contact me at the information provided above.

Thank you for your commitment to responsible journalism.