



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Eric Anderson, Vice President of Marketing & Communications
301.947.9000, ext. 1212 or eanderson@MPLassociation.org

Medical Professional Liability Association Releases Checklist for Hurricane Florence Medical Volunteers

Rockville, MD (September 14, 2018) – The Medical Professional Liability Association (MPL Association), the leading association representing the medical professional liability (MPL) insurance community, released a checklist today for medical professionals responding to emergency medical care needs in the wake of Hurricane Florence.

“Each year, we witness the devastation that hurricanes can cause,” stated Brian K. Atchinson, President and CEO of the MPL Association. “Every part of our country can be impacted by some type of disaster, whether natural or manmade. We applaud the dedicated medical professionals who volunteer their time and effort to assist when such events occur.”

MPL Association Checklist for Healthcare Professionals

1. **Contact Your Medical Professional Liability Insurance Carrier** – If travelling to another state to aid disaster victims, it is important to ensure that your liability coverage travels with you. Contact your carrier before departing so you will know the full extent of your coverage.
2. **Review the Liability Laws and Protections within the Disaster Jurisdiction** – Some states may have very different liability laws than those under which a health professional is used to practicing. In addition, some states may implement waivers of possible liability for certain types of volunteers. It is important to know what liability laws will apply before responding to a disaster.
3. **Check with Your State Licensure Board** – Some states will accept healthcare professionals from other states when a disaster occurs. Checking with your licensure board can help you determine whether or not the disaster state has implemented such measures to ease the way for medical volunteers.
4. **Volunteer Registration** (<https://www.phe.gov/esarvhp/Pages/about.aspx>) – The Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) is a federal program created to support states and territories in establishing standardized volunteer registration programs for disasters and public health and medical emergencies. The program, administered on the state level, verifies health professionals' identification and credentials so that they can respond more quickly when disaster strikes. By registering through ESAR-VHP, volunteers' identities, licenses, credentials, accreditations, and hospital privileges are all verified in advance, saving valuable time in emergency situations. Consider registering before a disaster strikes.

###

The MPL Association is the leading international association representing medical professional liability insurance companies, risk retention groups, captives, trusts, and other entities with a commitment to the quality delivery of healthcare. MPL Association members insure more than 2 million healthcare professionals around the world—doctors, dentists, nurses and nurse practitioners, and other healthcare providers—including more than two-thirds of America's private practicing physicians. MPL Association members also insure more than 3,000 hospitals and 5,000 medical facilities.