



CONSULATE GENERAL OF BELIZE

Park Mile Plaza

4801 Wilshire Blvd. Ste. 250

Los Angeles, CA. 90010

Telephone: (323) 634-9900 Fax: (323) 634-9903

E-mail: belizeconsulate@sbcglobal.net

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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(Los Angeles) The disaster relief effort for Tropical Storm Arthur coordinated by The Consulate of Belize and Non-governmental Organizations in Los Angeles concluded on August 9, 2008. The shipment left Los Angeles, bound for Hyde's Shipping and Hybur Ltd. of Miami, Florida, who will be transporting the container to Belize, its final destination. The company has waived the cost of shipping from Port Everglades (Miami) to Belize.

Mr. Rumell Perdomo of Belize Travellers donated \$1500.00 U.S. that was needed to complete the shipping cost from Los Angeles to Miami. Mr. Denfield McNab negotiated with Mr. Perdomo to donate \$1.00 U.S. for each bottle of 1 Barrel Rum sold in California through December 2008. As a gesture of good faith, Mr. Perdomo advanced the \$1500.00 U.S. in order to expedite the immediate shipment of the container.

The relief effort in Los Angeles raised \$2,260.00 U.S. in cash donations, which were handed over to the Belize Red Cross in June 2008 to assist with the disaster relief. Over 600 lbs of groceries and 2000 lbs of bedding, clothing, cleaning supplies, school supplies and toiletries are being shipped to the Belize Red Cross. The container also has clothing and foot-ware air marked for Ghann's Rest House and the 4H Program managed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Thanks is extended to Mr. Leo Liu of Liu Trucking Company and Mr. Denfield McNab of Bluefield Shipping who facilitated the collection drive by providing warehouse space for sorting, packing and storing of collected items. Thanks also to Mrs. Radiance Findley, who coordinated the cash donations submitted to the Belize Red Cross and the Consortium for Belizean Development Inc., who coordinated and managed the funds collected for shipping cost. Special thanks are also extended to Ms. Cristina Jones and Marie Garcia for contributing proceeds from items sold towards shipping cost.

Mr. Roland Yorke, Consul General of Belize in Los Angeles sincerely thanks and sends his appreciation to the following organizations for participating in and assisting with the relief effort: Belizean American Nursing Community, Belizean Heritage Association, California Branch of the Belize Justices of the Peace, Concerned Belizean Association, Consortium for Belizean Development, Inc. Edwin Leslie Sr. Disaster Relief, International Square Dance Group and the Los Angeles Belizean Educational Network.

Special thanks to Chester Coye, Merve Hendy, Denfield McNab, Rory McNab, Glenn O. Myers, Leo Liu, Ernest Robinson and Calbert Welch for loading the container and bringing the relief effort to a successful conclusion.

Appreciation and thanks to the Belizean American Community in Los Angeles for giving selflessly to the relief effort benefiting the victims of Tropical Storm Arthur.