



## PRESS RELEASE

New Orleans Fire Department  
Charles Parent, Superintendent  
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New Orleans, LA 70130

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 26, 2012, 2012

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### “Big Easy to the Big Apple”

New Orleans, LA. – A contingent of New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD) personnel have spearheaded a “Big Easy to the Big Apple” recovery effort to assist Firefighters and other Emergency Services personnel affected by Hurricane Sandy. Members of the New Orleans Fire Department having lived through Hurricane Katrina are all too familiar with the type of devastation and loss being experienced in the Northeast United States. We understand that the compassion and understanding that comes from someone who’s been there goes a long way to help with healing and rebuilding. In an effort to repay the helping hand extended by our brothers and sisters in the Fire Service from the New York and New Jersey area after Hurricane Katrina Groups of twelve NOFD firefighters will make three separate trips to New York beginning November 27th through December 15th. The first group the will be leaving tomorrow:

**DATE: Tuesday, November 27, 2012**  
**TIME: 9:45 am**  
**PLACE: Louisiana Armstrong International Airport – Southwest Airlines Flight 4843**

“We’re heeding Mayor Landrieu’s call to pay it forward to our friends in the Northeast,” said NOFD Chief Charles Parent. “We would like to thank Southwest Airlines for their generosity by donating the round-trip flights to New York for our members. This significant contribution is an example of private and public partnership working hand and hand to help our brothers and sisters in need.”

It’s understood that the vast majority of our members would jump at the opportunity to assist another firefighter in their time of need, but personal constraints and responsibilities at home prevent some of us from making the trip. This is an opportunity for all of us to help.