

# **SUPERSTORM**

**Hurricane Sandy Emergency Response Board**

## Letter From the Chair

Hello Delegates!

My name is Walker Szczecina, and I couldn't be more thrilled to be your chair for this exciting and dynamic committee! I'm currently a sophomore here at GW, majoring in Political Science and Data Science. I've been involved in Model UN since middle school, and I'm a Junior Head Delegate for GWMUN's travel team. Outside of Model UN, I'm involved in student theater tech, and I'm also a tour guide! Originally, I'm from Maplewood, New Jersey, which was a town strongly impacted by Hurricane Sandy. I grew up seeing the devastation caused by this storm, and the billions of dollars that went into rebuilding efforts across the region. Hurricane Sandy devastated millions of people's homes and livelihoods, and therefore, I expect every delegate in this committee to treat the topic with a level of respect and seriousness.

I want to take a moment to clarify a few aspects of this committee. Firstly, the Emergency Response Board is a **fictional** entity, but the characters in this committee are all real people who worked to respond to Hurricane Sandy extensively. Also, some of the characters have had their roles and powers expanded from their real-life jobs. Second, this committee begins on Thursday, October 25th, and I expect to cover the lead-up, impact, and aftermath of the storm by the conclusion of the committee. Finally, **do not necessarily expect events, including the strength and severity of the storm, to occur exactly as they did in real life!**

In my senior year of high school, I attended WAMUNC as a delegate. Being one of my favorite conferences of all time, I hope each and every one of you enjoys it just as much as I did!

Sincerely,

Walker Szczecina

## **Introduction - The Emergency Response Board**

The Hurricane Sandy Emergency Response Board was created in a collaborative effort by the state governments of New Jersey and New York, meeting for the first time on the morning of Thursday, October 25th, 2012. The board was tasked with three main objectives upon its creation:

1. Develop a robust plan of action for instructing and supporting the citizens of New York and New Jersey in preparing for the impact of Hurricane Sandy, including potential evacuation contingency scenarios.
2. Create and support a plan for both short-term and long-term response to the devastation caused by the storm, beginning with immediate support directly following impact.
3. Ensure all of these plans and functions are fiscally responsible, and respect the interests of all groups represented in the emergency response board.

However, the situation is obviously dynamic, and the scope of the board could easily change in a moment's notice as new crises arise. In assembling the board, it was a main goal that a multitude of groups be represented, in order to ensure the most comprehensive and inclusive response possible. A summary of the members included is as follows:

- **Government Officials** from local, state, and federal governments are involved to set policy and carry out the plans of the committee. As public servants, caring for the people they represent should be their top priority, ensuring a measured and reasonable response in the face of this state of emergency.
- Officials in the realm of **Emergency Response, Public Safety, and Health** are specialists in their individual sector of emergency management. They will not only work to create plans utilizing their respective resources to support the citizens of New York and

New Jersey, but also ensure that all actions by the council are realistic and extensive enough to support the continued operation of their agencies throughout the crisis.

- **Infrastructure and Utility** representatives are heavily involved in the board as they emphasize the unique urbanization that sets the NYC metropolitan area apart from anywhere else in the country. Keeping the infrastructure of the region stable is extraordinarily essential to the livelihoods of New York and New Jersey residents.
- A wide range of **Business and Media Executives** are on the board as representatives of the private sector. They will each have their own economic concerns, working to ensure that the board's actions do not contradict with the interests of their own companies. Of course, their businesses can also be utilized for the public good, and will surely be essential in the implementation of complete disaster response.
- **Local and Cultural Leaders** form the remainder of the council by giving a voice to otherwise unrepresented but important aspects of New York and New Jersey, including worker's unions and the tourism industry. While these leaders may not have the same level of resources as other members of the committee, their specific expertise in niche areas makes them crucial council members.

The combined expertise of these delegates creates hope that a robust and successful plan to protect and support the people of New York and New Jersey can be achieved. While public safety should be the number one priority for all members, the reason that members of all backgrounds were included when formulating the council was to enable them to advocate for their sector's interests in the implementation of any proposal. Therefore, the board will have to

balance the considerations of all members as they work through the moving parts of navigating one of the most important regions in the world through a major disaster.

## **Hurricane Forecasting Definitions and Terms**

While this committee takes focus on the public policy of disaster response, delegates are expected to understand basic knowledge about hurricanes and how they are forecasted. Here is a list of key terms to know:

- **Tropical Depression:** A low-pressure system with sustained winds of less than 39 mph.
- **Tropical Storm:** A system with sustained winds between 39-73 mph.
- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 74 mph or higher.
  - **Category 1:** 74-95 mph (some damage)
  - **Category 2:** 96-110 mph (extensive damage)
  - **Category 3:** 111-129 mph (devastating damage)
  - **Category 4:** 130-156 mph (catastrophic damage)
  - **Category 5:** 157+ mph (catastrophic damage)
- **Cone of Uncertainty:** The projected path of the hurricane's center over a certain time, showing where the storm may go but not the full extent of its impacts.
- **Advisory:** Periodic (every 3 hours) official updates from the National Hurricane Center (NHC), including the storm's current location, wind speed, movement, and warnings.
- **Hurricane/Tropical Storm Watch:** Issued when hurricane/tropical storm conditions are *possible* within 48 hours.
- **Hurricane/Tropical Storm Warning:** Issued when hurricane/tropical storm conditions are *expected* within 36 hours.

- **Storm Surge Warning:** Alerts for life-threatening flooding due to rising waters caused by the storm, typically within 36 hours.
- **Eyewall:** The area of strongest winds and heaviest rain surrounding the eye of a storm.
- **Rainbands:** Bands of thunderstorms spiraling outward from the center of the storm, bringing heavy rain and gusty winds.
- **Storm Surge:** An abnormal rise in sea level caused by the storm's winds pushing water onto land, often the deadliest aspect of hurricanes.
- **Spaghetti Models:** A visualization of multiple hurricane forecast paths generated by different computer models to show the range of possibilities.

## Current Situation

[THE WEATHER NETWORK - TV BROADCAST 10252012 - TRANSCRIPT//ENGLISH]

Anchor Donalds: Hello America! I'm Diana Donalds, and welcome to the weather network. It's just past 9am on Thursday morning, October 25th, and we're going to take you right to our forecaster David Blake, who I'm being told has some breaking news for us. David?

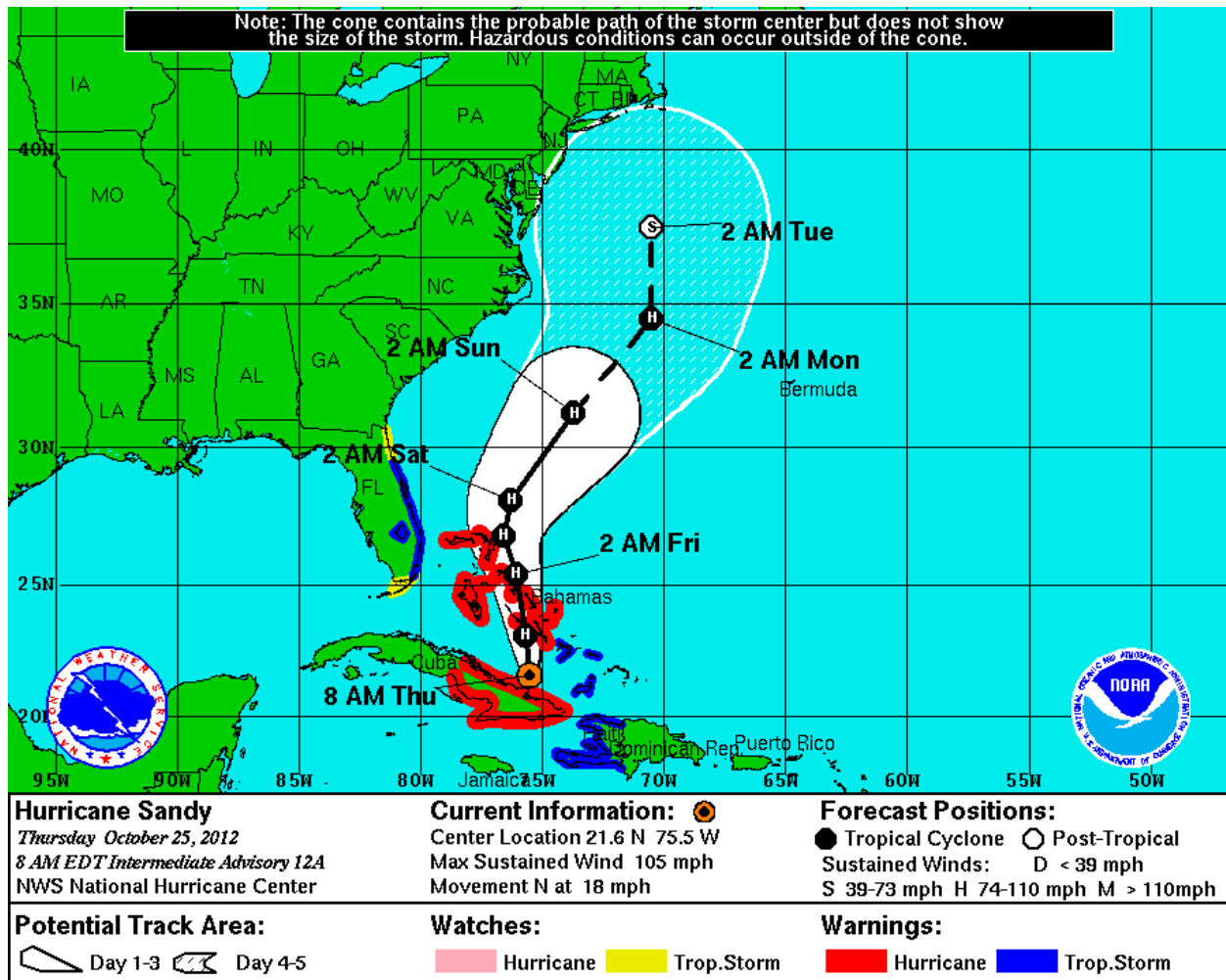
Forecaster Blake: Yes, hello.. Hello Diana. I'm reporting to you live from the island of Cuba. We're still feeling the effects of Hurricane Sandy here, which has rapidly strengthened. Overnight, Sandy has become a Category 3 hurricane, and we're currently measuring maximum sustained winds of 105 miles per hour.

Anchor Donalds: David, we can tell it's windy, please make sure you're staying safe.

Forecaster Blake: We're good here.. the worst of the storm has moved past Cuba. But we urge Americans to keep a close eye on this storm. It has rapidly expanded in size, with Tropical-storm force winds extending up to 230 miles from the center. This has

the potential to be a record-breaking hurricane in terms of its size.

Anchor Donalds: Yes, we encourage viewers to tune into The Weather Network often to view the most up to date information on this storm. Things can change very fast. In fact, we just got a new forecast cone from NOAA. Can we pull up that model now? [ON-SCREEN VISUAL – NOAA NHC FORECAST MODEL – HURRICANE SANDY]



Anchor Donalds: Well.. that's new. It's headed right for New York City. Folks, look where it's going. That's a part of the country that doesn't see tropical weather often.

Forecaster Blake: This is the key point everybody! This is a rapidly developing situation, and even though the forecast is still pretty uncertain right now, we urge everyone in the Northeast United States to stay alert. If, and I want to

emphasize the word if, forecasts stay the same, we would see the impact of this system on the New York City metropolitan area early Tuesday morning, continuing throughout the day.

Anchor Donalds: Yes, and I don't want to scare anyone here. As of right now, this storm is forecasted to be a weakening tropical storm with wind speeds under 60 miles per hour if it even makes it to landfall somewhere in the Northeast. In that case, the impacts would be relatively mino-

Forecaster Blake: Diana, I'm sorry to interrupt, I'm bringing you some breaking news here.. We just got word in a new report that New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo have assembled an emergency response team in preparation for the storm, and they have been briefed on the situation.. the state governments appear to be preparing for a possible worst-case scenario. Certain new GFS forecast models call for a rapid strengthening of Sandy before it makes landfall as a hurricane along the Jersey Shore. Reports are also coming out that a state of emergency declaration is imminent in both states. This situation is ever-changing, but the government is currently preparing for..

Anchor Donalds: Oh gosh.. that could be.. this is once in a generation..

Forecaster Blake: They're calling it a superstorm, Diana.

## **The Five Areas of Concern Regarding Hurricane Relief**

FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) has established guidelines to help keep people safe and minimize the impact of storms. These guidelines address evacuation planning, protecting property, emergency response funding, and public communication, providing a roadmap for effective preparation and response. Adapting these practices to the specific challenges posed by Hurricane Sandy is essential for minimizing damage and ensuring safety.



Evacuation planning is one of the most critical aspects of hurricane preparation. Local governments are responsible for identifying evacuation zones and routes, clearly marking them, and ensuring that residents are informed through TV, radio, and social media. Special attention must be given to vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and those without access to transportation. Pre-registration systems and specialized transport options can help ensure these groups are safely evacuated.

Protecting homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure is another key focus. Residents are encouraged to board up windows, trim overhanging branches, and secure outdoor items to minimize property damage. Governments must also prioritize reinforcing essential infrastructure like power lines, bridges, and hospitals, ensuring they can withstand high winds and flooding. These measures are vital to protecting both personal property and the community's critical systems.

Emergency responders play a pivotal role in hurricane preparation and recovery, and ensuring they are well-equipped is a top priority. This includes stockpiling supplies such as food, water, fuel, and medical kits in strategic locations. Responders must also be trained and ready to act immediately following a storm. Coordination centers can streamline communication and resource distribution, ensuring that impacted areas receive timely assistance.

Finally, effective public communication is essential for keeping residents informed and safe. Governments should use emergency alert systems, social media, and local news outlets to provide real-time updates on the storm's trajectory, evacuation orders, and safety protocols. Educational campaigns can also raise awareness about how to prepare for hurricanes, emphasizing the importance of creating emergency kits, securing homes, and following official guidance.

## **Case Study: Hurricane Katrina and What Went Wrong!**

Hurricane Katrina is a name most people in the U.S. will never forget. It wasn't just the storm itself—it was the disastrous way it was handled. Looking back, there are so many lessons we can take from that tragedy to make sure something like it never happens again. One of the most prominent issues during Hurricane Katrina was the lack of coordination between federal, state, and local governments. Resources and aid did not reach affected areas quickly enough, resulting in prolonged suffering for many. The absence of a clear chain of command caused confusion about responsibilities, leading to delays in deploying critical resources such as rescue teams, food, and water. FEMA, the federal agency responsible for disaster management, struggled to organize efforts effectively, hindered by insufficient preparation and mismanagement. This breakdown in communication and collaboration underscores the importance of establishing clear protocols and ensuring all levels of government work cohesively in disaster scenarios.

The conditions in shelters during Hurricane Katrina exposed significant gaps in public health planning. The Superdome, a designated evacuation center in New Orleans, was overwhelmed by the number of evacuees, far exceeding its intended capacity. Overcrowding, lack of basic sanitation, and limited food and water supplies created a dire situation for those seeking refuge. Additionally, hospitals in the region were severely affected by flooding and power outages, forcing many to close or operate under crisis conditions. The inability to provide

adequate shelter and healthcare during the storm highlighted the critical need for pre-planned shelter capacity, stockpiled medical resources, and robust public health infrastructure to support disaster-stricken populations.

Katrina exposed serious vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure, most notably the failure of levees designed to protect New Orleans from flooding. Despite warnings about the inadequacy of the levee system, insufficient maintenance, and delayed upgrades resulted in widespread flooding when the storm hit. Roads, bridges, and power systems also suffered significant damage, further hampering response efforts. While New Orleans experienced a massive devastation, Today they are known for their bustling nightlife and beloved Creole Culture.

The response to Hurricane Katrina demonstrated the consequences of inadequate resource allocation and emergency funding. Supplies such as food, water, and fuel were not sufficiently pre-positioned in areas at high risk. Emergency responders faced challenges in accessing impacted regions due to logistical barriers, including damaged roads and limited transportation options. These issues highlight the need for a well-coordinated strategy to allocate resources effectively and ensure financial readiness to support disaster response and recovery.

Clear and timely communication was another major failure during Katrina. Many residents were not adequately informed of the storm's severity or evacuation procedures, leaving them unprepared to respond. Inconsistent messaging from officials further compounded the confusion. This failure underscores the necessity of using multiple communication channels—such as emergency alerts, social media, and local news outlets—to provide accurate and accessible information before, during, and after a disaster. **Delegates should carefully study the response to Hurricane Katrina** and use what was learned to create better solutions for Hurricane Sandy. By understanding what went wrong during Katrina, such as poor coordination

and public health issues, delegates can avoid similar mistakes and focus on making plans that protect and support communities affected by Sandy.

### **Questions to Consider**

1. How can members of this board propose solutions in a timely manner that satisfy the interests of all delegates and their respective industries or backgrounds?
2. What are the most effective measures that can be taken to prepare the region for the uncertain impact of Hurricane Sandy?
3. What are the most critical needs to address in the immediate aftermath of the hurricane?
4. How can the board ensure that vulnerable populations such as low-income families and the elderly are not left behind?
5. How do you address concerns about climate change during recovery, and should this influence rebuilding decisions?
6. How will you communicate your decisions to the public, especially if resources are limited or outcomes are unfavorable?

### **Character Dossier**

#### **Government Officials**

##### Chris Christie – Governor of New Jersey

Chris Christie has been the 55th governor of New Jersey since January 2010. Before serving as governor, he was the District Attorney for New Jersey. A moderate Republican, he generally leads a fiscally conservative, socially liberal administration. With presidential ambitions, Christie is extremely committed to maintaining his currently-high approval rating, doing whatever it takes to ensure a robust response to this storm.

##### Andrew Cuomo – Governor of New York

Andrew Cuomo has served as the 56th governor of New York since January 2011. He was previously the Attorney General of New York, and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development during the Clinton administration. Using this background, Cuomo focused extensively on infrastructure development throughout his first term, and seeks to emphasize rebuilding and fortifying infrastructure to withstand the impact of Sandy, as well as future storms.

#### Michael Bloomberg – Mayor of New York City

Michael Bloomberg has been the Mayor of New York City since January 2002. A billionaire businessman and philanthropist, he previously founded Bloomberg L.P., a global financial services company. Known for his pragmatic, data-driven approach to governance, Bloomberg has prioritized public health, environmental sustainability, and economic development during his tenure. As Hurricane Sandy looms, Bloomberg is focused on ensuring the city's infrastructure and emergency services are prepared to minimize damage and protect New Yorkers, leveraging his management expertise to coordinate a swift and efficient response.

#### Cory Booker - Mayor of Newark

Cory Booker was first elected Mayor of Newark, New Jersey in July 2006. As the largest city in New Jersey, Newark faces unique challenges in preparing for Hurricane Sandy, with a significantly above-average poverty rate. Cory Booker is known for his direct communication with constituents, including his grassroots campaign style. He's been a strong advocate for urban redevelopment for the public safety of Newark, which should help him in ensuring the safety of his citizens during the storm.

#### Lorenzo Langford - Mayor of Atlantic City

Having served as Mayor of Atlantic City for the 8 of the past 10 years, Lorenzo Langford has a unique position representing the interests of a city heavily reliant on tourism and gambling. A former pit boss, he has a contentious relationship with state government officials, often putting the interests of his city at odds with those of Christie's administration. While he obviously cares about public safety, he also strongly believes in doing what it takes to keep Atlantic City's economy profitable.

#### Janet Napolitano – U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security serves an important role during large-scale emergencies in the continued protection of security and public safety in the country. A relatively new agency created after the September 11th attacks, it has a significant history in New York City specifically. As Secretary, Janet Napolitano has a focus on ensuring the allocation of adequate resources and security in the region, and the coordination of these efforts.

#### Shaun Donovan – U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Shaun Donovan leads the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which is crucial in developing long-term responses to weather disasters. With millions of residents living within miles of the ocean in New York and New Jersey, officials should be prepared for flooding and destruction of homes that could cause long-term displacement. The federal agency also has a multitude of data surrounding the urban development of the NYC metropolitan area, which could certainly come in use.

### **Emergency Response, Public Safety, and Health**

#### **W. Craig Fugate – Administrator of FEMA**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is a federal agency that works to support local and state governments when their resources are overwhelmed by disasters such as hurricanes. W. Craig Fugate, therefore, is a leader in coordinating this federal assistance, working to ensure the effective deployment of FEMA's resources. As someone whose work often involves coordination with numerous government agencies on the local, state, and federal level, Fugate was one of the largest advocates of the formation of this emergency response board.

#### **Joseph Bruno – Commissioner of the NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM)**

Mr. Bruno is the central coordinator for disaster response and recovery at the local level. He is the chief authority on directing resources, personnel, and communications among New York City agencies during the storm. While FEMA has been called in to help, Bruno serves an important role as a representative of the interests and abilities of local emergency management teams throughout New York and New Jersey.

#### **Ray Kelly – Commissioner of the New York City Police Department (NYPD)**

The New York Police Department plays a crucial role in maintaining public safety and order during scenarios like these. As commissioner of the largest police department in the country, Ray Kelly has had a multitude of experiences in crisis management and emergency situations, and has been chosen as the representative of Police departments across New York and New Jersey. He is ready and able to assist in a large-scale evacuation of the city if the committee chooses to take this action.

#### **Salvatore J. Cassano - Commissioner of the New York City Fire Department (FDNY)**

Mr. Cassano is well known in New York City as an experienced leader with a focus on protecting the most vulnerable communities in the city. He will be prepared to lead fire safety operations during the hurricane, providing aid and promoting public safety across New York. He has been chosen to represent the interests and concerns of Fire Department officials across New York and New Jersey on this board.

#### **Dr. Thomas Farley – New York City Health Commissioner**

Dr. Thomas Farley has been chosen to represent the interests of public health officials throughout the region. He is focused on ensuring the continuation of healthcare access during and throughout the aftermath of the storm. He also coordinates and controls the city's large fleet of ambulances and other emergency health vehicles, which may become essential in disaster relief efforts.

Kenneth Raske – President of the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA)

As president of the GNYHA, Mr. Raske represents the interests of all hospitals and healthcare providers in the NYC region on this board. His work includes ensuring the coordination among healthcare facilities for emergency care, and he seeks to strongly advocate for resources and support from the board in maintaining operations of hospitals during the storm, an essential step in saving lives.

Lisa Jackson – Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Lisa Jackson oversees the EPA's efforts to address environmental hazards that arise during disasters like Hurricane Sandy. Her primary focus is on monitoring and mitigating risks to air and water quality caused by flooding, debris, and chemical spills. Jackson ensures that cleanup operations comply with environmental safety standards, helping to protect public health and prevent long-term ecological damage in affected areas.

Gail McGovern – President and CEO of the American Red Cross

Gail McGovern leads the American Red Cross in coordinating disaster relief efforts during Hurricane Sandy. Her role involves mobilizing volunteers, distributing emergency supplies, and managing shelter operations for displaced residents. McGovern's expertise in crisis management ensures that the organization provides immediate and effective support to communities in need, while also addressing long-term recovery efforts.

**Infrastructure and Utilities**

Joseph Lhota – Chairman and CEO of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA)

Joseph Lhota oversees the operations of the MTA, which provides rail, bus, and subway services throughout New York City and its surrounding suburbs. His main focus will be on preparing the massive system for the expected flooding and other storm-related damage. Without an operational MTA, the entire city's economy could grind to a sudden halt. As perhaps the most essential aspect of New York City's infrastructure, the subway system should be a top priority for all in this committee.

Jim Simpson - Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)

The New Jersey Department of Transportation operates both the robust road and highway system in the state of New Jersey, and NJ transit, the state's comprehensive commuter rail and bus service, with Jim Simpson overseeing it all. Both of these transportation systems are

absolutely vital to New Jersey's millions of commuters, and Mr. Simpson's background in logistics should help him to coordinate road closures, debris removal, and emergency access routes to keep New Jersey drivers and commuters safe in these turbulent times.

Dr. Louis Uccellini – Director of the National Weather Service (NWS)

Dr. Uccellini leads the National Weather Service in the forecasting and issuing of weather-related emergency alerts. The NWS is crucial in gathering and providing meteorological data, including through the execution of "Hurricane Hunter" flights that fly through the eyes of storms. Due to the rapidly changing nature of weather and hurricanes, the NWS is crucial in providing the most up-to-date information to Americans.

Ralph Izzo – President of Public Service Enterprise Group (PSE&G)

As the president of the largest electrical provider in the state of New Jersey, Ralph Izzo will likely be dealing with outages in the hundreds of thousands or even millions in just a few days' time. His priority throughout committee will be on mitigating the number of outages and the effect of the lack of electricity in the state. He knows that a robust and coordinated plan for restoration of power services as soon as possible will benefit all.

Patrick J. Foye – Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

The Port Authority is a unique interstate compact joint venture between the states of New York and New Jersey which oversees bridges, tunnels, airports, and seaports within a 25-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty. With experience in coordinating cross-state responses between leaders of New York and New Jersey, Patrick J. Foye finds himself ready for the task of ensuring the safety of major critical infrastructure such as the Holland Tunnel, Newark Liberty International Airport, and the George Washington Bridge.

**Business and Media Leaders**

Arthur Sulzberger Jr. – Lead Publisher of The New York Times

The New York Times has served as the most prominent newspaper for the city of New York since its founding in 1851. As lead publisher, Mr. Sulzberger strongly believes in the media's role as a vital tool during times of crisis such as this. He sees this committee as an opportunity to lead coordination among journalists to keep the public informed about the hurricane, but also to hold the emergency board accountable to the people and report on its actions.

Scott Davis – CEO of UPS

As the CEO of the United Postal Service (UPS), Scott Davis is tasked with maintaining supply chains and ensuring the delivery of essential goods. Playing a pivotal role in the national and even global economy, the supply chain efficiency of the New York City area will be a priority for Davis, preventing economic strain.



### James Dolan – CEO of Cablevision

As the CEO of Cablevision, James Dolan oversees one of the leading cable and internet providers in the Northeast. His primary focus during Hurricane Sandy is maintaining communication networks to ensure residents and emergency services have access to critical information. With cable and internet access vital for updates and coordination, Dolan is tasked with minimizing outages and restoring services as quickly as possible.

### Ivan Seidenberg – CEO of Verizon Communications

Ivan Seidenberg, the CEO of Verizon Communications, plays a critical role in ensuring the stability of communication infrastructure across the impacted regions. With widespread power outages and damaged cell towers anticipated, Seidenberg's expertise in telecommunications is essential for maintaining connectivity and supporting emergency communication needs.

### Brian Moynihan – CEO of Bank of America

As CEO of one of the largest financial institutions in the U.S., Brian Moynihan focuses on ensuring financial stability during and after Hurricane Sandy. His role includes coordinating with the federal and state governments to provide relief funding, ensuring access to banking services, and addressing the economic impact of the storm on local businesses and residents.

## **Local and Cultural Leaders**

### Harry Nespoli – President of the Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association and Chairman of the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC)

Harry Nespoli represents sanitation workers who play a vital role in the aftermath of disasters like Hurricane Sandy. His primary concern is ensuring the quick removal of debris, hazardous waste, and other storm-related materials from affected areas to facilitate recovery and restore normalcy. Nespoli will advocate for adequate resources and workforce protection during cleanup operations, emphasizing the health and safety of his union members.

### James Slevin – President of the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA) Local 1-2

James Slevin leads the utility workers responsible for maintaining and restoring essential services, such as electricity and water, during and after Hurricane Sandy. With widespread outages anticipated, Slevin's focus is on mobilizing repair crews, coordinating with local governments, and advocating for worker safety in hazardous conditions. His leadership is critical to ensuring that utility services are restored swiftly and efficiently.

### Maria Storino - Owner of Casino Pier and Jenkinson's, President of the Association of New Jersey and New York Beaches and Boardwalks

*[NOTE: While the Storino family are the real owners of Casino Pier and Jenkinson's, the Association of New Jersey and New York Beaches and Boardwalks is a fictional organization]*

Maria Storino owns two of the largest boardwalks on the Jersey Shore, and has worked to create a regional association representing the interests of shore-based tourism sites along both New

Jersey's 130-mile-long shoreline as well as Long Island. The beaches and boardwalks are bracing for large-scale destruction and erosion that could impact their financial sustainability for years to come, and the economic ramifications of this should not be overlooked by the committee.

Jim Allen - President of the Casino Association of New Jersey

The gambling industry, chiefly situated in Atlantic City, is one of the New York City region's key economic drivers. Jim Allen represents this group, focused on ensuring a quick recovery to the extensive tourism-based aspects of the region's economy. While he only officially represents casinos in New Jersey, Mr. Allen additionally serves on this council to represent all tourism-based attractions in the two states.