



Harter Secret & Emery LLP

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HARTER SECRET & EMERY RAISES \$21,850 FOR HURRICANE MARIA RELIEF *Donation made to American Red Cross to support ongoing efforts in Puerto Rico*

Rochester, New York, October 31, 2017 – Harter Secret & Emery LLP, Rochester’s largest law firm, is extending a generous helping hand from the Flower City to those dealing with the devastating effects of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Officials from the firm presented a check for \$21,850 to Jim Love, executive director of American Red Cross Greater Rochester Chapter, in the firm’s downtown headquarters this morning.

Craig S. Wittlin, Harter Secret & Emery Managing Partner, noted that news of the devastation in Puerto Rico hit close to home, as several of the firm’s employees have close family members living there. A firm-wide, employee-driven fundraising effort was launched, and the firm matched the contributions made by its employees dollar for dollar.

“We’ve all seen the catastrophic damage and havoc the storm caused on Puerto Rico, and the employees at Harter Secret & Emery wanted to help,” Wittlin said. “More than a month after Hurricane Maria slammed into Puerto Rico and the northeastern Caribbean, countless people are still dealing with the aftermath and struggling to regain a sense of normalcy in their daily lives. We hope that, in some small way, we are able to aid in their struggle.”

Hurricane Maria originally made landfall on September 20 striking Puerto Rico as a Category 4 hurricane. It destroyed the island’s electrical grid while ravaging homes and businesses across the US territory. According to reports, about 70 percent of the island remains without power and many still do not have access to safe drinking water.

“It is impossible for us to even begin to imagine what those in Puerto Rico are dealing with, and have been dealing with, every day since the storm tore into their lives,” he said. “They have an incredibly long road ahead of them. More than anything, we want them to know that our thoughts, hearts and prayers are with them.”

About Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP is a full-service business law firm providing legal services to clients ranging from individuals and family-owned businesses to Fortune 100 companies and major regional institutions. With offices in Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Corning, and New York City, New York, the firm is a recognized leader in litigation, corporate, employee benefits, environmental and land use, health care, higher education, immigration, intellectual property, labor and employment, real estate, and trusts and estates law. Harter Secrest & Emery has 33 *U.S. News - Best Lawyers* 2017 “Best Law Firms” top tier practice group rankings—more Western New York rankings than any other law firm. The firm has been top ranked in *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A, Litigation, Immigration and Real Estate law and 42 attorneys are recognized as *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2018. For more information visit www.hselaw.com.

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