

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Berger Foundation Pledges to Donate \$5 Million to Victims of Katrina**

*Private foundation to match any Southern California contributions to Bush-Clinton Fund*

**PALM DESERT, Calif.** - The H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation today announces its pledge of \$5 million for the benefit of the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The Berger Foundation will match any monetary contributions from Southern California's private citizens, businesses, and other private foundations to the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund up to \$5 million. The Berger Foundation challenges those in Southern California to contribute to the Fund in an effort to show their support of the Gulf Region.

“Over the years, the Berger Foundation has reached out to those in dire need of assistance and we feel that this is no exception,” said Ronald M. Auen, Chairman and President of the Berger Foundation. “We would like to demonstrate Southern California’s support of the relief efforts and we hope that our pledge of \$5 million will spur others in this state to give as well.”

The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund is serving as an umbrella organization for the three special funds established by governors of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi and it is collecting donations to assist in the long-term recovery plan for the states affected by this tragedy.

Contributions may be made directly on the Web site of the fund:

[www.bushclintonkatrinafund.com](http://www.bushclintonkatrinafund.com).

The H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation of Palm Desert, Calif. is a private foundation that generously supports educational and other charitable projects. Since 1993, the Berger Foundation has contributed over \$155 million to charities throughout Southern California and the United States. In particular, the Berger Foundation supports the I Have a Dream Foundation, the Appalachian College Association, Alice Lloyd College, University of Arizona, Claremont McKenna College, California State University-Palm Desert, College of the Desert-Palm Desert and other Coachella Valley charities and educational institutions.

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