

## NOMINATION FORM

**Project Title:** Flood and Disaster Relief Information

**Bar Association/Foundation:** El Paso Bar Association

**Contact Person:** Nancy Gallego, Executive Director

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**Membership Size and Type of Organization:** Local Bar Association with 2,000 or fewer members, or its affiliated foundation. The El Paso Bar Association has 650 members.

**Description: Describe the program in 200 words or less.**

The El Paso Bar Association's Community & Educational Outreach program, "Flood and Disaster Relief Information" was done to help our community navigate the many issues that arose as a result of massive flooding in El Paso County, Texas in August, 2006. Many areas of the county were effected and entire neighborhoods were completely destroyed. We wanted to help in a way that would also help them for many years, a booklet with valuable information for them. With the help of a local TV station we were able to get much needed information to them. (Booklets in English and Spanish and DVD of TV program are included in this packet)

**Type of Project:** Community Service

**To your knowledge, is this a new project or has it been developed from an existing project? If modeled after another program, describe how it was adapted in a new or unique way.**

While this project was new to us, projects such as ours have been implemented in many areas of the country which have been devastated by disasters and each community has dealt with them in their own way.

**Objectives & Goals: Please state the problem or need this program addressed**

In August, 2006, El Paso County, Texas suffered the worst flooding in over 100 years. The El Paso Bar Association felt that the community needed to have as much information as possible to help them through this situation. The El Paso County community is almost 75% Hispanic so we knew that we needed to have the information in Spanish as well as English.

**Implementation: Please describe the methods used to address the problem**

The President of the El Paso Bar Association, Justice Ann McClure contacted the BOD and got volunteers to help with the project, it was decided to do an informational booklet that would give as much disaster information as possible. Once we started working on the booklet, the local Fox affiliate contacted us to get comments about the Flood and in talking with them it was decided that a short informational program would be the way to get the information out. Fox and one of our Board Members, Bruce Koehler came up with the concept and the list of experts, including the FEMA representative. In conjunction with the program we had the booklets ready in English and Spanish.

**Time Table: Please address when project was initiated and time spent in preparation and in implementation.**

When the flood occurred a large number of the Board members were directly effected and the President of EPBA contacted all the BOD and they proceeded to gather all the information that would be put into the booklet. Each of the volunteers took one section of the booklet and were responsible for gathering all the materials. Once all the materials were gathered the volunteers proceeded to proof and put into a format that would be easy for non-lawyers to understand. Once all the materials were ready we contacted our printer and he got his translator to translate the booklet into Spanish. Once the booklets were printed, we put them on our website, [www.elpasobar.com](http://www.elpasobar.com) and we took a large number to the TV station, K-Fox so they could be on hand once the TV show aired.

Our turnaround was 8 days from the time we started.

**Target Audience: Who was the intended audience?**

Our target audience was the entire El Paso County community who was directly affected by the flooding. Once our booklets were finished we took copies in English and Spanish to the following:

1. Mayor's office
2. Each of the eight (8) City representatives
3. County Judge
4. Each of the four (4) County Commissioners
5. State Senator
6. Four (4) State Representatives
7. Community Centers & Senior Centers

**Number of people served by the program?**

It is hard to gauge the number of people who were helped as we provided the materials and they may have been used by more than one person.

**Budget: What was the total budget for the program?**

\$2,500.00 for the cost of printing and translating.

**How was the program funded?**

El Paso Bar Association funding

**Results/Evaluation: How was the program evaluated? What were the results? Were the objectives/goals met? Feedback from the community?**

The program was evaluated by our BOD and they felt that the objectives/goals of the program were met, as we just wanted to be of help to our community members who did not have any knowledge in disasters. We actually were babies at this as most of us had never lived through a disaster that hits your hometown.

**Will the program be continued?**

It will continue on an as needed basis, should another disaster arise.

**Volunteers & Staff: Total number of people involved in developing and implementing the program.**

Ten (10) volunteers

**Of this number, how many were volunteer attorneys?**

Ten (10)

**Address concerns other bars may have if they were to replicate this program.**

I don't think that any bars would have a problem replicating this program, it was very easy once we got started.