

# ARIZONA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Gary W. Hatch, Fire Chief, Hellsgate Fire Department  
President, Arizona Fire Chiefs Association 2011-13



Lou Trammell Director  
Arizona Division of Emergency Management  
5636 E McDowell Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85008-3495

Dear Mr. Trammell,

This letter from the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association is sent in support of a disaster recovery resource that we feel will provide valuable information to the residents of Arizona who face the daunting task of recovering from a disaster. We have looked into **“The Red Guide to Recovery”** which has been adopted by the State of California and has support from the California Emergency Management Agency, the California Fire Chiefs’ Association, the California State Fire Marshal, and other emergency management and fire agencies there. Our understanding is that the author and publisher have offered to create a customized edition for the State of Arizona.

We are asking for the State to support this effort being put forth and to help build a program that the State of Arizona can be proud to provide. During a disaster is not the time to plan on what to do and how to do it. It must be done in good times if it is to be successful in the bad times.

The AFCA is currently promoting the “Ready, Set, Go” program from the International Fire Chiefs Association, which deals with what to do in case of a Wildland fire. This is a great program and we feel that it works great. But it does not deal with the emotional, financial, and physical damage caused by natural disasters. It is not if a disaster hits, but when a disaster strikes in our State. We need to have a plan in place and we feel that this is the plan that can do just that.

I hope that you and the members of the ADEM will value this program and help it in the ways that will make it work in Arizona and to be available within the boundaries of the State.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gary W. Hatch'.

Gary W. Hatch  
Fire Chief, Hellsgate Fire Department  
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