Instructions to Physician Volunteers

1. **OBTAIN AUTHORITY TO SERVE AS A VOLUNTEER PHYSICIAN**
   Only physicians who have been authorized by the Dallas County Medical Society on behalf of the Dallas Medical Reserve Corps are allowed to volunteer. Self-deploying physicians will be turned away from the clinic by the on-site Incident Commander. It is standard emergency response protocol to identify and badge all volunteers, including physicians off-site from the clinic or shelters. This is for your safety and to reduce confusion at the clinic.

2. **PARKING AT THE CONVENTION CENTER**
   At the Convention Center, park at either of the Star Parking Lots, which are private lots across from the convention center, near Eddie Dean’s Event Venue. **PARKING IS FREE.** These are the safest and closest parking areas to the convention center entry. If you have issues, contact Connie Webster at 972-765-2818.

3. **WHERE TO REPORT**
   Enter the south side of the Convention Center on Lamar Street. When you are greeted by a Red Cross volunteer, tell them that you are to volunteer in the medical clinic and you were sent by DCMS. You must sign in; access to the convention center and the medical area is restricted. You then will be directed to the medical clinic area, where you will be badged/credentialed. **When your shift ends, you must sign out at the clinic AND at the volunteer area.**

4. **WHAT TO TAKE TO THE CONVENTION CENTER**
   a. Copy of medical license (or know the number)
   b. Driver’s license
   c. DEA number & NPI number
   d. A white medical coat, if you have one, and a stethoscope
   e. Medical instruments relevant to your specialty — especially helpful are penlights and portable otoscopes/ophthalmoscopes. Take disposable plastic ear speculae if you have some.

**DO NOT** take donations of clothing or gifts to the convention center. The drop-off site for donations is 15660 Dallas Parkway, Dallas.
**Liability Coverage for Volunteer Medical Services**

Three laws protect physicians in volunteer capacities: the Texas Charitable Immunity and Liability Act, the federal Good Samaritan Law, and the federal Volunteer Protection Act. We encourage physicians to contact their malpractice carrier directly to tell them you are volunteering as a disaster responder in an official capacity with the Dallas Medical Reserve Corps.

The Texas Charitable Immunity and Liability Act is designed to encourage volunteerism by providing immunity from civil liability for physician volunteers who provide nonemergency medical services. Immunity relies on the following criteria:
- Work is for a charitable organization and the physician is not being compensated;
- The physician acts in good faith within the scope of his or her license; and
- The patient provides written consent.

The Good Samaritan Law provides immunity from civil liability to physicians who provide uncompensated emergency care when the need arises, as long as:
- Their actions are in good faith;
- They are not compensated;
- Their actions did not cause the emergency; and
- They are not the admitting physician or associated physician with treating the patient.

The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 protects volunteers from liability abuses in order to promote the interests of a nonprofit organization.

*Thank you for responding to serve in this emergency. If you have questions, contact:*

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