



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SUPERVISORS APPROVE RIDLEY-THOMAS AND  
KNABE REQUEST FOR COUNTYWIDE RELIEF EFFORT  
TO AID VICTIMS OF TSUNAMI DISASTER IN SAMOA**

*LA County is home to about 13,000 Samoan Americans,  
many of whom reside in the Second and Fourth Supervisorial Districts*

**LOS ANGELES** – The Board of Supervisors today approved a joint request by Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Chairman Don Knabe to designate the American Red Cross as the organization through which the public and the County’s 100,000-plus employees can make donations to assist victims of the tsunami in American Samoa and Samoa.

Last week’s disaster was felt in Los Angeles County, home to nearly 13,000 Samoan Americans, many of whom live in Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ Second District and Supervisor Knabe’s Fourth District.

“No contribution or donation is too small,” Supervisor Ridley-Thomas said, noting that many county residents have relatives who were displaced by the Sept. 28th tsunami generated by an 8.0 magnitude earthquake in the Pacific Ocean.

Hundreds of people were killed and untold others are missing. President Barack Obama declared a major disaster in the area and has authorized federal aid to support local recovery efforts.

In addition to encouraging donations, Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Knabe directed County officials to post information on the County’s Intranet site to make

it simple for employees and others to make donations.

The Supervisors encouraged all Los Angeles County residents and employees to consider making a donation by contacting the American Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS (73327677) or by logging on to [www.helpsamoa.com](http://www.helpsamoa.com).

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