



Caribbean Association of Fire Chiefs – (One Caribbean Fire Service)

## CAFC Haiti Earthquake Response

### Status Update

January 15, 2010

Leading the Caribbean in Joint Training For Fire, Rescue & EMS

#### The Mission Statement

It was proposed by Chief Lewis (and so adopted) that the CAFC mission to Haiti be targeted at “Providing relief for Haiti’s fire service, allowing them to tend to their families and communities”.

#### Commitments & Deployments

CAFC member nations are in various stages of readiness in the response to support the rescue and recovery effort in Haiti. The following is our collective status as of 20:00 EST.



- **Chief Dupuis (Dominica)** – Dominica has a 12 man team on standby for deployment. Their Prime minister is the current CARICOM President and has travelled to Dominica to make an in-country assessment. Chief Dupuis is awaiting an on-the-ground assessment to further determine terms of his team deployment.

Chief Dupuis has advised that the RSS is considering re-purposing its surveillance aircraft for transporting emergency services personnel to Haiti and may be working to secure an additional larger aircraft for this same use.

- **Chief Delaveux (The Bahamas)** – The Government of The Bahamas will meet 7 am Friday to determine what can be committed to the effort.
- **Commissioner Williams (Jamaica)** – Jamaica has deployed a SAR team to Haiti. Commissioner Williams will provide a detailed update of this the deployment.
- **Chief Richards (US Virgin Islands)** – Approximately 15 SAR and recovery personnel have been placed on standby for deployment within the territory.
- **Chief West (Montserrat)** – Montserrat is currently still responding to the eruption of the Soufriere Hills volcano. Montserrat is holding a fund-raiser on Saturday to raise relief funds for operations in Haiti and another next week specifically to provide financial support for the Haiti Fire Service.
- **Chief Fontinelle (St. Lucia)** – St. Lucia has a 12 member SAR team on standby awaiting deployment orders. Due to language issues (Creole is predominant in Haiti

and also spoken in St. Lucia), the St. Lucia team is critical the CAFC member deployment in-country. Additionally, Chief Fontinelle has facilitated critical CDRU contact and intel data for our coordinated effort.

- **Dr. Hittmann (911 Fund)** – The CAFC is coordinating with the 911 Fund to deliver a trailer-load of equipment and supplies, a SAR team and trauma doctors. Dr. Hittmann is communicating with the USAR leader from Miami who has setup the command post in Peytonville, Haiti. He will have an assessment update to share 1/15/10.

We are working to secure commitments from the following countries at this time:

- Chief Whitfield (Antigua)
- Chief Rawlins (St. Kitts)
- Chief Hollinsid (Bermuda)
- Chief Bowen (Trinidad)

We will hold a conference call (see dial-in info below) Friday 1/15/10 at 1 PM EST and will then provide General Earl Arthurs (CIDEMA - Senior Programme Officer, Preparedness and Response Unit) an interim assessment of our collective response tomorrow afternoon.

With regards to your levels of commitment to respond to the Haiti crisis, please provide us the following data:

- Number of personnel
- Application (SAR, Recovery, general labor and support ...)
- Duration of deployment
- Planned rotation of personnel into and out of Haiti
- Relief organization contacts currently being accessed to provide your teams in-country support (ie. food, shelter, medical, security)
- Assessed financial burden to your government for your support in the deployment and the portion of this burden for which you need assistance.

Conference Call - Dial-in Number: (712) 432-0080 - Access Code: 410143

Sincerely yours,

*Gregory Richards*

Chief Gregory N. Richards  
President - CAFC