

**News Release**

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**For Immediate Release**

**NADL's Disaster Relief Fund Aids California Dental Laboratory Industry**

**Tallahassee, Florida:** The National Association of Dental Laboratories (NADL) is responding to the crisis created by the wildfires in California sweeping throughout the southern portion of the state. More than 12,000 people have sought shelter at Qualcomm Stadium and it is estimated that a million people have been evacuated from their homes, according to news reports.

NADL has more than \$30,000 in the fund originally established for Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Since the fund's inception, NADL has raised nearly \$200,000. Much of the money was received in the months immediately following Hurricane Katrina, however, donations are still received periodically. In late 2005, the NADL board approved a motion to change the Katrina Disaster Relief Fund to the NADL Disaster Relief Fund so the association and donors could assist other disaster victims in the dental laboratory industry. In addition to providing assistance to the Hurricane Katrina victims, NADL's fund has helped victims of hurricanes Rita and Wilma.

Although the exact number of dental laboratories and dental technicians affected by the California fires is unknown, NADL Co-Executive Director Ricki Braswell, CAE, said, "This tragedy is having a significant impact on Southern California. It is our plan to follow the protocol that we established with the Hurricane Katrina disaster and provide immediate relief funds to anyone who works in the dental laboratory profession who is in the affected areas, on a first come, first serve basis."

NADL is accepting monetary donations for the NADL Disaster Relief Fund. "This is a time when we count on support from within the profession," Braswell said. Donations can be made by contacting the NADL office at 800.950.1150 or by going online to [www.nidl.org](http://www.nidl.org).

The Western States Conference, Inc., was the first to donate funds to the NADL Disaster Relief Fund with a donation of \$1,000.

The National Association of Dental Laboratories is the trade association representing dental laboratories. NADL is the unified voice for the dental laboratory industry, supporting the dental profession and serving the public interest by promoting high standards.

For more information about the NADL's Disaster Relief Fund or to make a donation or to request an application for assistance, please contact the NADL office at (800) 950-1150.

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