Bill Status: Passed



# University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council

### 23 September 2013

## 79 LCR 06 — Flood Recognition

Sponsored By: Marco Dorado President of External Affairs

Ellie Roberts President of Internal Affairs
Chris Schaefbauer President of Student Affairs
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David Bretl Representative at Large
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Joe Putnik Representative at Large
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Education Co-Senator
Education Co-Senator
Engineering Co-Senator
Engineering Co-Senator

Spencer Kalata Environment Design Co-Senator

Kelsey Cody
Tara Gilboa
Graduate Co-Senator
Graduate Co-Senator
Graduate Co-Senator
Journalism Co-Senator
Law School Co-Senator
Law School Co-Senator
Music School Co-Senator
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Danielle Watkins-Green Environmental Board

Authored By: Chris Schaefbauer President of Student Affairs

A resolution to recognize the hard work of emergency responders, community members, students and University staff and administration in their response to the Colorado Floods of 2013

## **Resolution History**

On Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013, after several days of intermittent rain, a major storm cell moved into the Boulder and surrounding areas carrying huge amounts of rain. By the end of the day on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, Boulder had received 14.71 inches of rain. This caused the Boulder creek and other creeks and streams to overflow into the surrounding community. The sheer amount of rainfall and overflowing creeks flooded streets, homes, and buildings. Students were evacuated from graduate and family housing and other areas of Boulder. Emergency responders immediately began working to address urgent needs and the city and university enacted emergency plans to try and mitigate as much damage to life and property as possible. University staff and administrators were called to campus to communicate on-going hazards to students and assess impacts to campus infrastructure. Staff from Housing and Dining Services worked tirelessly, many over 36 hours straight, in order to monitor the situation, meet urgent needs of the students, provide meals on-campus, and help evacuate graduate and family housing north of Boulder Creek.

After the rains subsided, the community came together to help those impacted. Students offered their homes to displaced friends and neighbors. Community members and students formed groups, like Boulder Flood Relief, to assess needs and coordinate recovery action. Student Affairs developed the Flood Assistance Program to help students replace damaged textbooks, pay for meals, and provide temporary housing in local hotels. This is just a snapshot of the outpouring of community support after the flood.

#### **Resolution Summary**

During and after the 2013 Colorado Floods, first responders, university staff and administrators, community members, and students acted to mitigate the impact of the flood on our community and begin the long process of recovery. We honor the dedication of these individuals and formally thank them for their commitment to the University of Colorado student body and the Boulder community.

**Whereas,** over 17.15 inches of rain fell between Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday, September 16th;

Whereas, at least 902 homes in the Boulder area were either destroyed or received major damage;

Whereas, University of Colorado Boulder administration and staff acted quickly to ensure the safety of the student body as well as the campus community;

Whereas, University of Colorado Boulder staff evacuated graduate and family housing north of Boulder Creek;

Whereas, hundreds of CU students have supported their community by cleaning up and repairing impacted homes, streets, and buildings;

Whereas, CU students have offered their homes as temporary housing for displaced friends and neighbors;

Whereas, the University of Colorado Boulder was closed for 2 days;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the University of Colorado Student Government that:

**Section 1:** The students of the University of Colorado Boulder recognize and honor the hard work and commitment of first responders during the 2013 Colorado Floods.

**Section 2:** The students of the University of Colorado Boulder recognize and thank the following University of Colorado Boulder staff members and departments for their tireless work and determination to protect students and the campus:

Housing and Dining Services (HDS)

University Police Department (CUPD)

Alfred Flores and the staff that support Graduate and Family Housing Facilities Management

Susan Stafford and the staff of Off-Campus Housing & Neighborhood Relations Jen Ross and the staff of the Volunteer Resource Center

Philip Bienvenu and the staff of Student Legal Services

Maren Additon and the staff of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Paula Bland, Director of Residence Life

All other staff that have and continue to contribute to the well-being of students and the university during and in the aftermath of the 2013 Colorado Floods.

**Section 3:** The students of the University of Colorado Boulder recognize and thank University of Colorado Boulder administrators for their unwavering leadership and outstanding communication during this immensely trying time for our community, including, but not limited to:

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Deb Coffin Dean of Students Christina Gonzales Senior Assistant Vice Chancellor Kambiz Khalili Vice Chancellor Louise Vale Vice Chancellor Frances Draper Provost Russell Moore **Section 4:** The University of Colorado Student Government recognizes the students and student groups that have supported their fellow Buffs and the Boulder community by providing temporary housing, cleaning homes and the surrounding neighborhoods, organizing recovery efforts, and raising funds.

**Section 5:** The University of Colorado Student Government calls upon the student body to actively engage in the recovery process and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our community — not just in the short term, but for the months and months of challenges that lie ahead.

#### **Vote Count**

09/26/2013	Amended Section 2	<b>Acclamation</b>
09/26/2013	Passed on 1 <sup>st</sup> reading	<b>Acclamation</b>
10/03/2013	Amended to add sponsors	<b>Acclamation</b>
10/03/2013	Passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading	<b>Acclamation</b>

Chris Schaefbauer

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