

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BOB RILEY  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALABAMA

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September 2, 2005

Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
Pentagon  
Washington, DC

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

I ask you to approve 180 days of military duty in Title 32 USC 901 status for soldiers and airmen serving on state active duty in support of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Title 32 status will allow the soldiers and airmen supporting Hurricane Katrina Relief to receive military retirement points, health insurance and disability protection.

Hurricane Katrina struck Alabama, our neighbors in Mississippi and Louisiana on Monday, August 29, 2005. I ordered over 3,000 Alabama National Guard soldiers and airmen to state active duty to provide security, medical, engineers and communication support to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. None of the soldiers or airmen are serving in a federal status.

Currently, our soldiers and airmen are engaged in the protection of vital infrastructure to include medical facilities, fuel distribution, I-10, water and power distribution systems which are all vital to the recovery of the entire Gulf coast area.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Riley".

Bob Riley  
Governor