



## Legislation Text

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### **Recognition of the Wyndham Garden Inn Hotel and Metrocrest Services for their support to the Villa Creek Apartment families impacted by the June Tornado/Straight Line Wind Event**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

On the afternoon of Sunday June 16, 2019, the City of Farmers Branch was hit by a tornado and straight line wind event. The Villa Creek Apartment complex was directly hit by straight line winds resulting in the destruction of two apartment buildings. The roofs were torn from the two buildings rendering the fourteen individual apartments within uninhabitable. A total of sixty-four residents were displaced and forty-seven of those needed immediate housing assistance.

The Wyndham Garden Inn Hotel, located near the Villa Creek Apartments, jumped into action to assist those impacted by the storm. Hotel Manager Zach Warren, with support from Hotel Owners Shelby Weaver and John Blomfield, responded to the Villa Creek Apartments. Mr. Warren explained that the Wyndham Garden Inn Hotel would offer greatly discounted hotel rooms to all of the families that were displaced for as many nights as they needed them. The families who needed housing accommodations now had somewhere stable and near their home to stay.

Metrocrest Services was requested to respond to the scene and Tracy Eubanks, CEO of Metrocrest Services, was quick to arrive to the Villa Creek Apartments. Metrocrest Services assessed the needs of the fourteen impacted families and determined that the first priority was short-term housing accommodations. Metrocrest Services paid for the hotel rooms at the Wyndham Garden Inn Hotel for every family that needed it for one month. Metrocrest notified the schools where the children attended to ensure additional support would be made available at the start of the school year. Melanie Brown, Senior Director of Client Services, worked closely with the apartment managers at Villa Creek, the management at Wyndham Garden Inn, and directly with each family to ensure that all of their needs were met.

The Farmers Branch Fire Department recognizes both the Wyndham Garden Inn Hotel and Metrocrest Services for their continuous support to the Villa Creek Apartment residents impacted by the June Tornado and Straight Line Wind Event. It is inspiring to witness our community partners quickly coming to aid fellow residents who have suffered a tragedy. We couldn't ask for better community partners for Farmers Branch.