



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Garan Lucow Miller Attorney Works With Michigan National Guard to Bring Katrina Evacuees to Fort Custer

DETROIT –September 8, 2005 – Attorney Kevin Weise, who also is a First Lieutenant in the Michigan Army National Guard, worked directly with Lieutenant Colonel James Bartolacci, the commander of Michigan’s evacuee operation, to relocate 280 Hurricane Katrina evacuees from Louisiana to the Fort Custer Training Center, which is just west of Battle Creek.

Weise, an associate with the Lansing office of Garan Lucow Miller, PC, was hand-picked by the Michigan National Guard to provide legal counsel to the operation commander. He worked very closely with Governor Jennifer Granholm’s office; Michigan’s Homeland Security department and other non-government entities, such as corporations and the Red Cross in preparing Fort Custer. Evacuees are expected to stay at Fort Custer for three to seven days before they are provided permanent housing throughout Michigan.

Lt. Col. Jim Bartolacci said, in an article in the Sept. 5, 2005 issue of the *Detroit Free Press*, “This is the first time we’ve [the Michigan National Guard] done something of this scale. Our job is to provide life support to the evacuees, to give them a quality of life and provide an opportunity for them to get a good meal, health care and a good place to stay.”

Weise has been with the Michigan National Guard since June 2000 and serves on the Judge Advocate General (JAG) staff for the 63rd Brigade Troop Command. The JAG staff provides legal assistance for soldiers and airmen, primarily to help them prepare for mobilization and deployment.

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Weise Hurricane Katrina Support ...2/

Kenneth Klaus, a shareholder in the Lansing office of Garan Lucow Miller, said, "We're very proud of Kevin's efforts to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. We applaud and wholeheartedly support his role in the Michigan National Guard."

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