



CONTACTS:

Leon Rubin
Office Depot Foundation
(Mobile) 561-251-8075
(Office) 706-867-0278
LRubin@jkgroup.com

**FLORIDA GOVERNOR'S HURRICANE CONFERENCE
HONORS OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION FOR LEADERSHIP
IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RELIEF AND RECOVERY**

Boca Raton, Fla., May 15, 2009 – The [Office Depot Foundation](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org) received a 2009 Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference Corporate Award on Thursday (5/14) in recognition of its strong commitment to helping communities prepare for, recover from and rebuild after hurricanes and other natural disasters. Florida Gov. Charlie Crist personally presented the award during the 23rd Annual Governor's Hurricane Conference in Fort Lauderdale.

The award acknowledges the Office Depot Foundation “for contributing generously to hurricane relief agencies in Florida for 15 years and promoting important new strategies for recovery, rebuilding and mitigation.”

“We are deeply honored to receive this award,” says Foundation President Mary Wong. “We appreciate the support we receive from Office Depot and the many other contributors who help us to be proactive and innovative in this work – which ultimately benefits the residents of Florida and numerous other communities around the world.”

Established in 1994 to assist Office Depot associates with the continuing recovery from Hurricane Andrew, the Office Depot Foundation counts disaster relief and recovery among its key strategic priorities. It made both financial and in-kind contributions in Florida during the active hurricane seasons in 2004 and 2005 and also has supported relief and recovery efforts in Southern California, Louisiana, Texas, Iowa and Sichuan Province, China, within the past two years.

The Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC) of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce nominated the Foundation, which is a supporter of BCLC's Business Disaster Assistance and Recovery Program. Mary Wong serves as co-chair of the Business Disaster Assistance and Recovery Working Group. The Foundation sponsors the National Disaster Assistance Help Desk for Business – 1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP – and hosted the BCLC Business Disaster Assistance and Recovery Program Forum at Office Depot's new global headquarters in Boca Raton in January.

The Foundation also partners with SCORE and the SCORE Foundation to support disaster planning, preparation and recovery for small businesses, including the development of resources for businesses on the Office Depot Foundation website at www.officedepotfoundation.org.



About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care[®], the Foundation supports a variety of programs that seek to enhance quality of life for children, strengthen communities, encourage economic growth, empower schools and civil society (non-profit) organizations, and provide support not only when disasters strike, but through the process of rebuilding. For more information, visit www.officedepotfoundation.org.

#

