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Date: 10/6/2016 11:05:35 AM

Subject: FW: The State: Need shelter from Hurricane Matthew? Airbnb has tool that could help you for free

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FYI

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From: Randall Gerard [mailto:rgerard@podestagroup.com]  
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2016 10:50 AM  
To: Glaccum, David  
Subject: Fw: The State: Need shelter from Hurricane Matthew? Airbnb has tool that could help you for free

Hey David,

I am sure you are solely focused on the hurricane and I know the Airbnb is not the answer for all the potential problems but I wanted to make sure you had seen this. Let us know if you have any questions or if we can help. Hope your constituents stay safe!

Randall

# Need shelter from Hurricane Matthew? Airbnb has tool that could help you for free

Read more here: <http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article106023807.html#storylink=cpy>

BY JEFF KIDD

[jkidd@thestate.com](mailto:jkidd@thestate.com)

COLUMBIA, S.C.

A well-known online accommodations app has launched a tool that could help those evacuating ahead of Hurricane Matthew find a free place to stay in the Midlands. Airbnb activated its [disaster response tool](#) on Tuesday, a day ahead of an evacuation of coastal South Carolina. Those who in urgent need of accommodations can connect with Airbnb hosts in the greater Columbia area who are opening their homes free of charge, according to a company news release.

Gov. Nikki Haley has declared a state of emergency and ordered mandatory evacuations of coastal areas by 3 p.m. Wednesday.

“Our thoughts are with those affected by this storm, and we encourage all local residents to comply with government directives to find safe shelter,” company spokesman Nick Shapiro said. “This is the first time that Airbnb is activating the disaster response tool in advance of a crisis, and we hope that in doing so, the Airbnb community will come together to help those in need and ease the strain on emergency housing.”