



STEVEN M. FULOP  
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

CITY OF JERSEY CITY  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442



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MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

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Contact: Jennifer Morrill

Press Secretary

**201-547-4836**

**201-376-0699**

***Mayor Fulop & Council President Lavarro to Host Fundraiser for Relief Effort for Victims of Typhoon Yolanda in the Philippines***

**JERSEY CITY** – Mayor Steven M. Fulop and City Council President Rolando Lavarro, Jr. are hosting a fundraiser to aid the victims of the **devastating Typhoon Yolanda** that struck the Philippines impacting an approximate 9.5 million people with nearly 1,000 casualties already reported.

Some Filipino officials are projecting that the death toll could reach 10,000.

“Jersey City has one of the largest Filipino communities in the nation and we know that our Filipino residents are all extremely concerned about their loved ones who are in the Philippines,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “As the relief effort is going to take much time and billions of dollars, we are asking residents in Jersey City to help aid in the mission. The Jersey City people have always come together to help other communities and other countries when faced with natural disasters and other tragedies, and we know this time will be no different.”

The fundraising event will take place from **6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14th, 2013 at Porto Lounge, 286 First Street**. A representative from the American Red Cross will be on hand to collect checks for the relief effort and Porto Lounge will donate a portion of their receipts as well.

“I thank Mayor Fulop and many members of the community, including businesses like Porto Lounge, for stepping forward to help in this hour of need,” said **Council President Lavarro**. “I’m personally moved by the outpouring of support and how Jersey City is demonstrating its generous spirit.”

Checks should be made payable to the American Red Cross with the memo designation of “Philippines Typhoon and Flood.” If you are unable to attend the event but still want to donate, you may do so online or by sending a check to your nearest American Red Cross chapter. Information can be found by visiting [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836.////**