



Eastern Connecticut State University

# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Eastern to Send Relief to Tornado-Stricken University**

**Willimantic, Conn.** – Andrew Powaleny '09 of Lyme, majoring in political science at Eastern Connecticut State University, is reaching out to those afflicted last week by the deadly tornados at Union University in Jackson, TN. Powaleny, who is spear heading a campus-wide campaign, made an appearance on WILI 1400-AM with Wayne Norman to further his plea for Eastern and the community to get involved.

Three of Union University's residence halls were destroyed by the tornados and many more buildings were damaged. Nineteen students were trapped when the buildings collapsed and nearly 50 people were sent to the hospital with severe injuries.

In a conversation with Powaleny, Randy Ford, communications director for U.S. Rep. John Tanner (TN-8), noted that, "Eastern is the first university in the United States to acknowledge and send relief to assist those students were devastated by the tornado."

Powaleny has started relief efforts at every residence hall on Eastern's campus. Each hall will have an envelope located in its office to collect funds. He is urging all students to give at least \$1 for the relief activities in Tennessee.

"This effort on behalf of Union University's disaster relief funds demonstrates that Eastern Connecticut State University cares about its brothers and sisters in Jackson, Tennessee," said Powaleny.

“We hope Union University knows how much Eastern and the people of Willimantic, CT, care about them,” Powaleny said. “By raising funds for the university, the people of Union should know that they will not be forgotten.”

Powaleny serves as news editor and photographer for *The Campus Lantern*, as well as serving as a resident assistant in Occum Hall. He has worked as a field representative for former U.S. Rep. Rob Simmons, as well as a researcher and strategist for the Connecticut Republican Party.

If you would like to donate, you can send your check to:

ECSU Foundation, Inc. (Memo: Union Univ. Tornado Relief)  
83 Windham Street  
Gelsi Young Hall  
Willimantic, CT 06226  
860-304-2465

Note: Donations are tax deductible

For more information, please contact Andrew Powaleny at (860) 304-2465 or e-mail [powaleny@stu.easternct.edu](mailto:powaleny@stu.easternct.edu).

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state’s public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

It is the policy of Eastern Connecticut State University to ensure equal access to its

events. If you are an individual with a disability and will need accommodations for this event, please contact the Office of University Relations at (860) 465-5735.

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