

NEWS



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STATEMENT BY COMMISSIONER PAUL TAGLIABUE

Our nation has experienced an unprecedented natural disaster and we join everyone now in focusing our attention on the massive relief and recovery needs of the Gulf Coast region.

On the home schedule of the New Orleans Saints this season, we will move the site of the Saints' first home game, which had been scheduled for the Louisiana Superdome on September 18 against the New York Giants, to Giants Stadium on that same weekend. We are in the process of working out the specific arrangements, including the day and kickoff time of the game and plans for television coverage. Information on tickets will be announced by the Giants within a few days.

We deeply appreciate the strong cooperation and leadership of Saints owner Tom Benson and the entire Saints organization in addressing the current extraordinary situation. We also appreciate the support of the Giants and the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority in these efforts.

There are many reasons for this decision, including recognizing that the overwhelming priority for public and private resources in Louisiana and the Gulf Coast region in the weeks ahead must be the essential needs of the public and the restoration of the area's infrastructure.

With the support of Giants fans and others in the New Jersey/New York area, this Saints-Giants game will be presented with elements that will highlight and contribute to the national relief effort. The Saints and Giants will donate a portion of the gate proceeds from the game to Hurricane Katrina relief.

The Saints represent Louisiana and New Orleans, and we will work closely with public officials there to maintain a focus on the region's needs and the role of the NFL and Saints in the recovery.

