



*National Weather Service  
Employees Organization*

## **Shutdown talking points.**

- 1) Make sure you tell the media that you are speaking as a representative of the National Weather Service Employees Organization (NWSEO) and ask them to introduce you that way.
- 2) Talk about your concern for the NWS's ability to carry out their mission of saving lives and property. Talk about the important work you were doing prior to the December furlough.
- 3) Talk about the dedicated work of the NWS employees. (I wouldn't compare them to other dedicated federal employees or firemen – this could get sticky.) Talk about the dedicated NWS employees who are going to work without pay.
- 4) Tell them about the NWS employees commitment to meet the NWS mission of protecting life and property, even though they don't even know when they will be paid again.
- 5) Tell them about the shutdown impacts to employees; how it's affecting their lives (if known).
- 6) Try to emphasize the impact on the general public.
- 7) Talk about how the models have been degraded per Suru's interview with the WP.  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2019/01/07/national-weather-service-is-open-your-forecast-is-worse-because-shutdown/?utm\\_term=.2460861820a2](https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2019/01/07/national-weather-service-is-open-your-forecast-is-worse-because-shutdown/?utm_term=.2460861820a2)
- 8) When doing TV interviews please try to get the producer's contact information -- email address and phone would be great. (If they call, also get what is on your caller ID – but ask for a business card and the info as well.
- 9) Please share your featured story or news article with NWSEO Membership Director Christy Fox at [membership@nwseo.org](mailto:membership@nwseo.org) for NWSEO archives, website and media contact lists.