

Reasons for Canceling Conference Registration

HE

Holcomb, Elisa M <emholcom@cougarnet.uh.edu>

Tue, 16 Jul 2024 2:58:05 PM -0400 •

To "achapman@ate1.org" <achapman@ate1.org>

Good afternoon. Dr. Chapman,

This is Elisa Holcomb and doctoral student in the University of Houston. I lived in the Houston and Galveston area in Texas. My family and I were affected by the Huracan Beryl. For this reason, my plans to attend the ATE give a different turn and bring unexpected financial and time expenses.

Once Beryl touched land in Houston, my house lost electricity power (still without power or internet as I type this email), my neighbor's pecan tree fell on my back yard, and half of my outgrown crape myrtle tree fell five feet away from my bedroom window. After losing electricity, my family and I stayed in the house until the heat did not allow us to be comfortable any longer and moved to a relative's house. We had to pay a tree service crew (US\$1,300) to help us remove the debris of our backyard, my husband and I were not capable to do it by ourselves. Our weekly groceries from the refrigerator had to go to the trash, and groceries from the pantry spoiled to become inedible due to the high heat (I do not have calculation of how much we lost). While waiting to get power restored, we have been buying already prepared meals (which is not our routine at home since we usually cook to save money and eat healthy), driving back and forth to our house to check on it, continue cleaning other debris and repairing the roof our shade which store our lawn equipment and other garden material. Additionally, we will have to pay a tree service company (US\$3,500) to take our elm tree down in the front yard as soon as possible because according to the arborist it is dying, and the tree is waiting for another storm to get down to the floor.

As I tell you my story in the aftermath of Beryl, I hope I am not missing anything else I should mention to you to know what forces me to change my plans for the soon future activities. I am full time student with a monthly income (approximately US\$1,500) for my research assistantship with the college. At this moment, I am not capable to buy flight tickets or book a hotel room to attend the conference.

Please, I want to ask you to consider my registration refund on light of these circumstances and my incapacity of attending the summer conference in Denver.

Thank you for your understanding.

Best regards,

Elisa Holcomb