

Statement

April 22, 2009



Councilmember Head Statement
Re: the Untimely Deaths of
Calyisse Perkins and Fitzgerald Phillips

New Orleans, LA - April 22, 2009 - New Orleans residents are saddened to learn of the deaths of Calyisse Perkins and Fitzgerald Phillips who were found in Gert Town.

I wish to extend my deepest condolences to the family members of Calyisse and Fitzgerald. The loss of these young adults in such trying circumstances is troubling and difficult to comprehend. Our criminal justice leaders must accept the challenge of decreasing crime in our city in a dramatic way.

The rebuilding efforts of our city are being lead by young people like Calyisse Perkins who donated her time as an AmeriCorps volunteer to help tutor children in a literacy program at William J. Fischer Elementary Charter School. This loss of two young lives will be mourned by many in the New Orleans area.

My thoughts and prayers are with the Perkins and Phillips family members during this very difficult time.

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans city government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow ; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.