

Statement

January 9, 2009



**Council Vice President Fielkow Statement  
On Today's "Strike Against Crime"**

New Orleans, LA - January 9, 2009 - Council Vice President Arnie Fielkow issued the following statement in support of today's 'Strike Against Crime' organized by Silence is Violence to spotlight the need for New Orleans to proactively address crime in our city:

"Two years ago a group of citizens, moved by the murders of two young New Orleans activists, organized a citywide observance to stop the escalating violent crime.

That small group's march to City Hall grew to thousands of people from all neighborhoods and backgrounds from across New Orleans. It energized our larger community to place the very highest priority on solving the crime that has plagued our city for years. There has been some progress, but every life lost and every family changed by violence pays too great a price.

I am personally participating in today's Strike Against Crime, organized by Silence Is Violence, by joining both the Victims Memorial at Noon and the Soccer In The Street match at 4 p.m. at Lafayette Square. I will continue to focus my work on those initiatives that offer our young people constructive alternatives to the unsupervised and often illegal activities that are commonplace in our community.

From our schools and neighborhoods, to our criminal justice system, to those in government and in commerce, the work of reducing crime in New Orleans requires everyone's courageous and steadfast participation.

I hope that today's Strike Against Crime will not be a one-time event. To really affect substantive change, we must continue to be united for a better way of life and to hold everyone responsible for the future of our city."

**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.