

New Orleans City Council

District B  
Councilmember  
Stacy Head

Council District "B" Constituent Services Staffer  
Named a 'New Orleans Freedom's Sister'  
By Ford Motor Company

News Release

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*Barbara Lacen-Keller*

New Orleans, LA - July 7, 2009 - Council District "B" Director of Constituent Services, Barbara Lacen-Keller, was named by Ford Motor Company as one of twenty New Orleans Freedom's Sisters for 2009. The award recognizes Barbara's lifelong accomplishments and commitment to the New Orleans community.

Freedom's Sisters is a national multimedia traveling exhibition that celebrates twenty African American women, including 19th-century figures and contemporary leaders, who helped shape the spirit and substance of the civil rights movement in America. The exhibit will

travel to nine cities during its three-year tour, and while New Orleans is not a venue for the exhibit, Ford Motor Company, in partnership with Essence Music Festival, is honoring twenty New Orleans women who embody the spirit and substance of the women in the national exhibit.

As District B's Director of Constituent Services, Barbara has worked tirelessly to advocate for its residents. She has helped obtain housing for the homeless, assisted multitudes of constituents in resolving concerns over city services, aided many citizens in finding answers to questions about the city permitting process and continues to provide leadership in a myriad of grassroots organizations.

Barbara serves on the board of the directors for the Dryades YMCA, dedicated to empowering families through education, social services and economic development. She is the Chair-elect of the Central City Partnership which delivers social and medical services to Central City residents. She is Co-Chair of the Central City Comeback Committee, which partners with the 6th Police District and is dedicated to finding innovative ways to combat crime. Lacen-Keller is also a member of Someone Who Cares, Inc. an organization that provides school children with uniforms, school supplies, etc.

Finally, Barbara has served in government positions for over forty years, and the City of New Orleans, and District "B" in particular, have been the beneficiaries of her dedication to public service.

District "B" Councilmember Stacy Head said, "District B is lucky to have such a dedicated, hard-working and committed Director of Constituent Services. Barbara is tireless in her efforts to help not only the communities in District B, but neighborhoods all over the City of New Orleans."

## 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 Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; 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.

