

Statement

July 18, 2008

**Councilmember James Carter, Chairman of Criminal Justice Committee,  
Calls Special City Council Criminal Justice Committee Meeting  
to Address Recent Police Misconduct**



New Orleans, LA - July 18, 2008 - "In light of the incident that occurred at the Treme Community Center earlier this week, I have called a Special City Council Criminal Justice Committee Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 at 12:00 Noon. The committee will address the recent alleged police misconduct."

"I would like to acknowledge the timely action of New Orleans Police Superintendent Warren Riley to suspend without pay Officer Ashley Terry pending completion of the investigation. However, I must reiterate that, this incident underscores the prudent action taken by the City Council last week to create an Independent Police Monitor to review and act fairly and autonomously relative to issues of police misconduct. The Independent Police Monitor, a Division of the Inspector General's Office, was created to monitor the NOPD's civilian and internally generated complaints; internal investigations; discipline; use of force; and in-custody deaths. In the very near future, this office will be staffed and operational, and when necessary will provide the citizens of New Orleans an independent mechanism to track, review and investigate incidents like the one that occurred this week in Treme."

**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.