

# Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans

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## Press Release

**September 27, 2005** - The Judges of Civil District Court, First and Second City Courts and the Parochial Officials of Orleans Parish extend to each of you our sympathies for your personal losses. At this historic time in our city's history we pledge our assistance to you, your families and your clients.

We are pleased to announce that the court and parochial offices **normally** housed in the Civil Court Building in New Orleans will be open to conduct legal business beginning, Monday, October 3, 2005, at a **new temporary location**. The parochial officials, specifically the Clerk of Civil District Court, the Clerks of First and Second City Courts, the Civil Sheriff of Orleans Parish, and the Constable of Orleans Parish will resume operations on this date. The Recorder of Mortgages, the Register of Conveyances, and the Office of Notarial Archives will resume operations on October 10, 2005. **Each of the above named agencies will receive filing intake for their respective offices at 1056 East Worthy Street, Gonzales, Louisiana. (Ascension Parish).**

Judges will be available to sign necessary pleadings, to conduct contradictory hearings, hold conferences and conduct non-jury civil trials agreed to by all parties and the court and/or handle any other appropriate matter. The Clerk of Court's office will direct you to each judge's chamber. In addition, the judges may schedule any matter he/she deems necessary at 453 South Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (the Pardon Board Offices) or any other agreed to site.

All previously scheduled pre-Hurricane Katrina matters are canceled unless the judge in his/her sound discretion specifically notices counsel otherwise.

Massive evacuation has crippled the ability to confect an appropriate jury. Therefore, absolutely no jury trials shall proceed. Furthermore, no jury trials will be scheduled until further notice.

Time-sensitive case deadlines, prescription and preemption have been suspended by order of Governor Kathleen Blanco and the State Supreme Court until October 25, 2005 or unless extended otherwise by Executive Order.

**Despite rumors to the contrary it is very important to note that ALL RECORDS housed in the Civil Court building remain intact.**

The operating hours for the court and the parochial offices shall be 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. **For general information, call 225-342-1687.**

Phone numbers for the specific parochial offices and the court will be posted Friday, October 7, 2005.

For other general information regarding contacting lawyers and other matters of interest to the bench and bar please see:

[www.lsba.org](http://www.lsba.org)

[www.lsla.org](http://www.lsla.org)

[www.ladc.org](http://www.ladc.org)

[www.lsct.org](http://www.lsct.org)

[www.neworleansbar.org](http://www.neworleansbar.org)

Finally, the judges of the Court En Banc are well aware that in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, we will be presented with a number of unique and novel legal issues. The judges are committed to applying the concepts of fairness, equity and due process to address these issues. By adhering to these fundamental concepts we are certain justice will be achieved.

*If you need further information please contact Public Information Officer Walt Pierce at 504-813-7661, 256-457-3749 or e-mail [walt\\_pierce@hotmail.com](mailto:walt_pierce@hotmail.com)*