



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

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**Dorothy Brown, Native of Louisiana,
Takes Different Approach to Hurricane Katrina Relief**

***Raises Money to Aid Clerk's Office Employees' Families That Are Victims of the Disaster
and the American Red Cross***

CHICAGO (September 2, 2005) – Hurricane Katrina, a deadly Category 4 storm, has left widespread devastation in its wake. The Office of Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, has initiated a campaign to collect monetary donations that will aid the families of Clerk's Office employees who were victims of the catastrophic disaster.

In addition, the Clerk's Office will collect monetary donations for the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which will provide immediate and long-term support through supplies, technical assistance and other aid to those in need.

"Hurricane Katrina is one of the worst natural disasters to strike the United States," said Clerk Brown a native of Louisiana. "There are many employees in the Clerk's Office who have families living in the areas affected by the hurricane that have lost everything.

"The Clerk's Office has come together to assist in relieving some of the hurricane victims' frustration by funneling aid directly to them."

Clerk Brown has requested that all employees with immediate family members who have had been affected by the hurricane, submit the name of the family members and where the families may be contacted. Once collected, the money will then be equitably dispersed to the families.

"My administrative assistant whose mother lives in Biloxi, Mississippi, lost everything," said Clerk Brown. "I wanted to help her and all of the other Clerk's Office employees' families who were affected."

"I feel helpless here in Chicago while my mother and other relatives are in need," said Lenora Ethredge, administrative assistant to Clerk Brown. "My mom is especially hurt because the people that stayed in the neighborhood don't have any help. My mom wants to assist them but she doesn't have anything."

Clerk Brown wants to thank everyone who inquired about her family in Louisiana and let them know that they are safe.