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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Minden, Louisiana Native Dorothy Brown, the Elected Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois Volunteers at her Alma Mater, Southern University in Baton Rouge, to Aid Hurricane Katrina Survivors

CHICAGO (Sept. 14, 2005) – The Honorable Dorothy Brown, the elected Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Ill. and a 1975 alumna of Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., will volunteer at the university’s F.G. Clark Activity Center to provide aid to 400 Hurricane Katrina survivors on Thursday, Sept. 15 and on Friday, Sept. 16.

“I am honored to volunteer to facilitate the healing process and provide comfort to the Hurricane Katrina survivors,” said Clerk Brown. “These are just like my family members, since I am from Louisiana. I am happy that the staff members of my alma mater have opened their hearts to the survivors.”

Clerk Brown will do either one or all of the following: check-in guests, work at the information desk, help at the concession stand and/or serve meals to hurricane evacuees at the activity center.

Clerk Brown supplied clothes, shoes, toiletries and baby diapers collected from an office wide relief drive to hurricane survivors now temporarily housed at Texas College in Tyler, Texas.

Clerk Brown, a native of Minden, La., was originally scheduled to personally deliver supplies to Jennings, La. However, that trip was changed because of a problem with the acquisition of the truck. Clerk Brown, still wanting to offer personal assistance, then decided to volunteer at her alma mater, Southern University in Baton Rouge. The Clerk’s Office supplies were then sent to Tyler, Texas as stated above.

The Office of Dorothy Brown also initiated a campaign to collect monetary donations for the families of office employees who were victims of the catastrophic disaster and the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Several immediate family members of Clerk’s Office employees were affected. The home and belongings of Clerk Brown’s administrative assistant’s mother in Biloxi, Miss. were destroyed by water. Another employee’s brother-in-law was killed in St. Bernard Parish, La.

In addition to aid provided to the family of office employees, Clerk Brown voluntarily paid a portion of the hotel expenses of three heroic young men from Louisiana who risked their lives to save hundreds of others in Hurricane Katrina after seeing their story on CNN. She also paid the bill for the only cell phone they were using to stay connected to family members.

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