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**Charlotte A. Randolph**, *Parish President*

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 5:45 P.M.

Friday, March 27, 2009

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### **Updated Flood Assessment and EOC Info**

Lafourche Parish Government Damage Assessment Teams have verified flooding in over 100 structures throughout Central Lafourche Parish. Teams have confirmed a total of 99 houses, 8 businesses and 20 apartment units have flooded and that number may rise as inaccessible areas become more accessible.

In Bayou Blue, a total of 30 homes were affected by flood waters. Assessments also show that 30 homes in the Town of Lockport had flood damage along with eight (8) businesses and 20 units of an apartment complex. A total of eight (8) houses were found to have been flooded in the Mathews area, including five (5) in the Twin Oaks Subdivision behind St. Anne General Hospital.

In the Raceland area, flooding has been confirmed in 31 homes. Flooding has also occurred in the Alidore community in Raceland where assessment teams estimate an additional 40 to 50 homes may have flooded. These numbers cannot be confirmed at this time, however, due to high water on the roads. To ensure accurate Parish flood assessments, Parish officials are asking anyone who suffered flood damage to a structure to call our Office of Emergency Preparedness at (985) 537-7603.

The National Weather Service is reporting the potential for one to two inches of rain tonight and into tomorrow morning. There is also a chance of damaging hail and winds associated with this system, which is expected to move rapidly through the area. As with any weather system of this nature, there is also the potential for tornadoes. The system is expected to have passed Lafourche Parish by 6:00 A.M. Saturday morning.

Lafourche Parish officials are asking residents to assist in the effort to help prevent further flooding by removing litter and debris from drainage ditches and culverts wherever feasible. They also ask residents to continue monitor local radio and television stations for any further updates. Sandbags are still available this evening and throughout the night at the Region C Field Office located at 6236 Highway 308 in Lockport.

The Lafourche Parish Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will also be staffed throughout the night to answer calls from flooded residents as well as address any problems that may arise. To reach the EOC, please call (985) 537-7603.

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