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Charlotte A. Randolph, *Parish President*

Office of Emergency Preparedness

PRESS RELEASE

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Lafourche Parish Monitors Hurricane Dennis

Lafourche Parish Government continues to monitor Hurricane Dennis through this evening's projected landfall in the Alabama/Florida area. Although Lafourche Parish is not in line for a direct hit from Hurricane Dennis, citizens should continue to monitor local television and radio for further information and advisories from Lafourche Parish Government. National Weather Service projections suggest that Lafourche Parish may experience some tropical force winds with wind gusts at possibly 40 miles per hour, as it lies on the western edge of a growing storm.

"We will maintain staff at our OEP Center this afternoon and into the evening until it is determined that Hurricane Dennis is no longer a threat to Lafourche," said Chris Boudreaux, OEP Director for Lafourche Parish. "Parish officials will continue to participate in regular conference calls with State OEP, neighboring parishes, other state agencies and the National Weather Service."

Parish Councilmen are also monitoring their respective districts and are in communication with President Charlotte Randolph and Lafourche Parish OEP.

While no evacuations have been called, Lafourche Parish President, Charlotte Randolph, urges all citizens to prepare for the possible effects of Hurricane Dennis. As of 6:00 a.m., water levels at the Leon Theriot Floodgate were at a normal level, and Port Fourchon was reporting slightly higher water levels. Because water levels can rise quickly and without warning, citizens living below the floodgate and in other lower-lying areas should exercise caution as temporary high water incidents may occur.

For further information please contact Chris Boudreaux, Lafourche OEP Director, at (985) 537-7603.