



**GRAND LODGE  
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®**

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**CHUCK CANTERBURY**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

March 2, 2006

**JAMES O. PASCO, JR.**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Warren J. Riley, Superintendent  
Department of Police  
City of New Orleans  
New Orleans, LA 70151

Dear Superintendent Riley:


This is in response to your letter of February 22, 2006, in which you requested our assistance in removing obstacles to the provision of adequate temporary housing for your officers and their families.

Upon receipt of your letter, we immediately contacted both the White House and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to advise them of the problems and potential problems which you so vividly described in your letter, and to assure them of our full support for your efforts to restore a satisfactory quality of life for the men and women in your department.

Since then, we have been working with DHS to find a satisfactory alternative to the 250 square foot trailers which were originally proposed by FEMA as temporary housing for the officers. On February 28, DHS advised us that the trailer option has been discarded as unacceptable, and that FEMA will now secure either apartments or hotels, as appropriate, to house officers and their families. I reconfirmed with both the White House and DHS that this is FEMA's intent, and so informed Deputy Superintendent Anthony Cannatella, NOPD, when we met here in Washington yesterday afternoon to discuss the issue.

While we are encouraged by this potential solution to the problem, we are aware that as plans work their way through the bureaucracy there are often bumps in the road. If you run into any problems going forward, please contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in our Washington DC office. We appreciate the opportunity to be helpful to you during this crisis.

Sincerely,

  
Chuck Canterbury  
National President

cc: Patrick Yoes  
National Secretary

—BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION





**CITY OF NEW ORLEANS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**



**C. RAY NAGIN**  
 MAYOR

*P.O. Box 51480*  
*New Orleans, LA 70151*

*"to protect and to serve"*  
 February 22, 2006

**WARREN J. RILEY**  
 SUPERINTENDENT

Chuck Canterbury  
 National President  
 Grand Lodge Fraternal Order of Police  
 1410 Donelson Pike, Suite A-17  
 Nashville, TN 37217

President Canterbury,

We are writing to request your assistance in addressing the pressing need for housing for members of the New Orleans Police Department.

As you are aware, temporary housing was provided to New Orleans police officers by Carnival Cruise Lines through a lease agreement arranged by the Federal Emergency Management Administration. That lease agreement expires on March 1, 2006, with no hope for extension. As of this date, as many as 300 of our police officers have found no alternative housing.

FEMA, along with other initiatives, has offered to provide a limited number of travel trailers to house officers, but the travel trailers being offered are only 250 sq. ft. in total size, far too small to house an officer and his or her family. According to FEMA, larger trailers are available, but cannot be delivered to the New Orleans area. FEMA cites a Presidential executive order dating to the Carter administration, barring the delivery.

We hope that you would agree that the men and women of the New Orleans Police Department have faced more than their share of adversity in the past six months, and have responded in heroic fashion. Most have lost their homes and all worldly possessions, but have continued to serve the citizens of New Orleans under truly deplorable conditions. Many, if not most, have been separated from loved ones since evacuating them to safer ground as Hurricane Katrina approached.

At the very least, the men and women of the New Orleans Police Department deserve to bring their families home - to help ease the burdens of policing a devastated city - to begin rebuilding their lives.

Any assistance the Fraternal Order of Police can provide in removing the obstructions cited by the Federal Emergency Management Administration will be greatly appreciated.

  
 Warren J. Riley  
 Superintendent

New Orleans Police Department

*A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*