PRICE GOUGING & TENANTS' RIGHTS:

A PETITION TO THE NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL

Across America, major cities have recognized the shortage of affordable rental housing as an emergency requiring governmental intervention to establish an anti-price gouging ordinance.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the City of New Orleans is experiencing a major crisis in the shortage of affordable rental housing, which impacts the majority of New Orleans residents who were renters prior to Hurricane Katrina. Federal funds allocated to the State of Louisiana for disaster recovery projects do not provide direct assistance to the tens of thousands of New Orleans residents who rented their homes at the time of the storm. Studies have documented that one year after Hurricane Katrina, the rental rate for private apartments has increased by nearly 80%, and thousands of displaced residents are at risk of becoming homeless.

For these reasons, we, the undersigned, call on the New Orleans City Council to enact a municipal anti-price gouging and eviction ordinance that:

- establishes an anti-price gouging and arbitration authority to:
  - promulgate rules and regulations that effectuate the anti-price gouging and eviction ordinance;
  - certify rental rates; and
  - hire administrative law judges to conduct hearings on petitions for rent adjustments, and conduct hearings on evictions;
- set the maximum rental rate equal to the amount of rent collected for the same or comparable property on August 1, 2005;
- provide for rent increases based on inflation, capitol improvements not to exceed 10% of rent, or increases in operating and maintenance costs not to exceed 7% of rent; and
- prohibit a landlord from evicting or otherwise endeavoring to take possession of a rental unit without just cause.

Name	Mailing Address	Phone No.	Email Address

RENT CONTROL & TENANTS' RIGHTS: ***A PETITION TO THE NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL***

Name	Mailing Address	Phone No.	Email Address