

STATEMENT BY THE HONORABLE DALE N. ATKINS, CLERK OF CIVIL DISTRICT COURT REGARDING FEMA FUNDING TO REPAIR NOTARIAL ARCHIVES BOOKS

I would like to express my gratitude for the continued commitment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help fully restore our community from the lingering impact from Hurricane Katrina with today's announcement of a \$1.7 million grant to restore over 2,000 bound volumes from our Notarial Archives.

Our office worked closely with state and federal officials as well as appointed conservators over the course of two years to identify every volume impacted and develop an in-house stabilization plan that will allow us to fully restore the records without impacting the day-to-day operations of the office.

The Notarial Archives documents are a unique in that they are both a historical treasure comprised of original records spanning three centuries and living documents used today in examinations, title research and for primary source material.

I would again thank the people at FEMA for their dedication to restore our city and for providing the office of Clerk of Civil District Court of Orleans Parish the means to restore the New Orleans Notarial Archives.

To see FEMA's release announcing the grant visit:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=60624>