



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
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## **NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE FUND LAUNCHES VOTER EMPOWERMENT CENTERS IN FOUR CITIES FOR DISPLACED NEW ORLEANS VOTERS**

With thousands of New Orleans' citizens displaced in temporary locales across the country and municipal elections rapidly approaching, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) has launched the **Protect the Katrina Vote** program to ensure that every displaced New Orleans voter has the information they need to exercise their right to vote. LDF is launching this effort in coalition with the Unity '06 Operation Rebuild Hope Campaign, the National Urban League, the National Bar Association and local civil rights attorneys.

The Protect the Katrina Vote program is a broad-based legal advocacy and voter education campaign designed to empower displaced voters by providing local **Voter Empowerment Centers** where evacuees can go to receive information on how to participate in the upcoming April 22 and May 20 municipal elections, and to get answers to difficult voting questions.

Voter Empowerment Centers will open in Houston, Atlanta, Baton Rouge and New Orleans on March 22, 2006. Staffed by trained legal volunteers, each center will have written materials and step-by-step guidelines for participating in the upcoming elections.

For more information about the Protect the Katrina Vote program, visit [www.katrinavote.org](http://www.katrinavote.org).

**WHAT** Opening of the Houston Voter Empowerment Center where displaced New Orleans voters can go to learn about their right to vote in the April 22 and May 20 municipal elections.

**WHEN** **Launch Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2006**  
**Hours: Monday – Saturday, 9 AM to 5 PM through APRIL 22**

**WHERE** Houston Area Urban League, Inc., 5320 Griggs, Houston, Texas 77021  
713.845.2501 (tel)

**WHO** New Orleans Voters who want to participate in the upcoming elections

**SPONSORS** NAACP LDF, Houston Area Urban League, **Houston Lawyers Association** and National Coalition for Black Civic Participation

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