

## ORLEANS PARISH DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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July 21, 2008

Local Democratic Party to Endorse Candidates

New Orleans, LA - Gearing up for the politically charged election season, the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee (OPDEC) will hold a meeting to endorse a candidate in the race for President of the United States, Louisiana Senator, Congress members for Congressional Districts one and two and New Orleans District Attorney. On Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Jury Pool Room in Civil District Court building next to City Hall, candidates or their representatives will have the chance to meet face to face with OPDEC members in hopes of winning the crucial endorsement. This will be the first endorsement meeting since the committee members were newly elected in February of this year.

With 189,067 Democrats currently registered to vote in Orleans Parish, OPDEC is the largest of Louisiana's 64 Democratic Parish Executive Committees. Its diverse membership includes leaders in government and business as well as student, community, and party leaders of all ages.

The OPDEC endorsement is highly sought after by Democratic candidates because of the weight it carries in the New Orleans community. "As elected party officials in touch with the day-to-day issues citizens face," explains OPDEC Chairman, James Gray, "our endorsement represents support for the candidate that we believe would best represent our constituents with the utmost respect for Democratic values."

"An OPDEC endorsement is not just a statement of support" says Deborah Langhoff, OPDEC's Vice Chair. The endorsement includes the promise of grassroots organizing and get out the vote efforts coordinated by OPDEC members. "We will do everything in our power to make sure our endorsed Democratic candidates get elected," states Langhoff, "in order to further the Democratic Party's agenda, which emphasizes the security of our nation, strong economic growth, affordable health care for all Americans, retirement security, honest government, and civil rights."

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