

Fannie Mae & Harris County Officials to Welcome “Katrina Hero” to Rent-Free House in North Houston

*-- New Orleans teacher among first of nearly 70 public servants
to participate in unique program --*

WHAT: In an informal ceremony performed by Harris County and Fannie Mae officials, keys to a rent-free five-bedroom home in the Spring-area will be awarded to Stasia Maria Davis, a New Orleans teacher and single mother who was displaced by Hurricane Katrina along with her four children.

The exchange of keys, which will take place on the doorstep of Ms. Davis's new home, kicks off a first-of-its kind collaboration between Fannie Mae and the Harris County Housing Authority, one that will provide 68 foreclosed homes in the Houston Area to public servants who had to evacuate from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Fannie Mae and Harris County will provide the homes free of charge based on one-year lease agreements. At the end of the leases, residents will have the option to buy their homes at affordable-housing rates.

The remaining 67 homes in the program should be filled by the end of the year, according to Guy Rankin, CEO and executive director of the Harris County Housing Authority.

Rankin, who will attend the key hand-over along with local Fannie Mae director James “JJ” Smith, says that first priority for the homes will be given to the “heroes from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: people like police officers, firefighters, nurses, emergency-medical technicians, and teachers.”

The homes are all located in metro Houston: 38 in the city of Houston, 13 in Katy, six in Spring, four in Humble, two in Baytown -- and one each in Pasadena, Seabrook, the Woodlands, Tomball and Webster.

WHEN: **Tuesday, December 13, 2005**
10:00 a.m.

WHO: **Stasia Maria Davis** -- A New Orleans teacher and single mother who was displaced by Hurricane Katrina along with her four children
Guy Rankin -- CEO & Executive Director of the Harris County Housing Authority
James “JJ” Smith -- Director of Fannie Mae's Houston Office

WHERE: **3615 Charwood Court, Houston, Texas 77068** (at I-45 and 1960)