

Downtown Development District of New Orleans
Resolution to Encourage the Retention of the Civil District Court and First City Court in
Downtown New Orleans
21 September 2007

Whereas law firms and ancillary legal services constitute a vital element of the downtown economy, occupying more than thirty percent (30%) of office space and accounting for upwards of 7,000 jobs; and

Whereas the presence of law firm and legal service employees downtown supports numerous personal and professional services downtown; and

Whereas studies indicate that proximity to courts, especially the convenience of being within walking distance, is a leading factor in law firms' choice of office locations; and

Whereas moving the Civil District Court and First City Court will cause severe economic hardship for the downtown office market, small businesses, hotels, and other businesses; and

Whereas the Tulane and Broad area lacks the aforementioned personal and professional services located downtown and so does not offer an attractive or viable option for legal office relocation; and

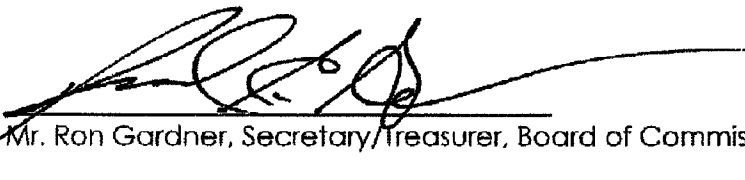
Whereas moving the Civil District Court and First City Court is likely to cause Orleans Parish to experience a net loss in law offices and the businesses that support them;

Now, therefore, the Downtown Development District of New Orleans encourages the retention of the Civil District Courts and First City Court downtown, thereby retaining both upwards of 7,000 highly-skilled, well-paid workers in Orleans Parish and also the personal and professional service businesses the legal community supports.



Dr. Byron Harrell, Chair, Board of Commissioners

Date: 10/2/07



Mr. Ron Gardner, Secretary/Treasurer, Board of Commissioners

Date: 10/2/07