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***FORWARD NEW ORLEANS Announces Mayoral Candidate Scorecard
Seven issue platform unites city for reform***

New Orleans (January 27, 2010)-Having recently released the City Council scorecard, FORWARD NEW ORLEANS (FNO) today announced how the major mayoral candidates stand on the organization's seven reform issues. The announcement was made by Gregory Rusovich, spokesperson for FORWARD NEW ORLEANS and chairman of the Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region. The following mayoral candidates have signed the pledges and committed to fulfill each of the issue mandates: Robert "Rob" Couhig, John Georges, Mitchell "Mitch" Landrieu and James Perry. Neither Troy Henry nor Nadine Ramsey signed pledges in support of the seven issues.

Over the past few weeks, the major mayoral candidates were given the opportunity to review and discuss FORWARD NEW ORLEANS with members of the broad based community coalition. Candidates were then asked to commit, in writing, to whichever of the seven issues they supported. The result is the Mayoral Scorecard that enables voters to easily assess each candidate's position on a particular issue. Because Henry and Ramsey did not sign in support of any of the seven issues, the scorecard reflects a "no pledge" position for them. In a memo to the FNO Committee, Henry explained that he is "fully supportive of (FNO's) efforts and initiatives"; yet, he did not sign any of the FNO pledges.

According to Rusovich, "Just as the Saints have united this city, we believe that FORWARD NEW ORLEANS will allow us to move forward as one city united in reform."

Rusovich continues, "This is an historical time in our city. We have risen from the waters of Katrina, secured a first ever Super Bowl berth and have the opportunity to come together as one voice for reform. New Orleans is united as never before, cloaked in a sense of optimism, pride, hope and renewal. This is our moment in history, our destiny to move our city forward—together."

After the Election

Bob Brown, managing director of the Business Council, says, "After the elected officials take office, we will periodically assess whether or not those elected are living up to the commitments that they made and report back to the citizens in the most clear and public way possible."

FNO believes that action and accountability are what New Orleans needs to move forward. The municipal elections of February and March, 2010 will, to a large extent, determine the well being of the City of New Orleans.

Brown adds, "With the majority support of the candidates for these reform principles, the citizens should have a real true feeling of optimism about the opportunity for real change after these elections.

"Furthermore, much of the legislation associated with these issues is already underway, anticipating quick action on some of the initiatives."

FORWARD NEW ORLEANS is a diverse coalition of more than 30 civic, neighborhood and business organizations which are committed to improving the quality of life in New Orleans. FORWARD NEW ORLEANS addresses the following seven issues: crime, blight, city finance, economic development, city services and infrastructure, city contracting and public education.



Mayoral Candidate Scorecard:

*Each candidate's response when asked to pledge support for reform mandates, issue by issue.
Key: Yes = Signed the pledge to support reforms on this issue. No Pledge = Did not sign pledge.*

Mayoral Candidate	Crime	Blight	City Finance	Economic Development	City Services/ Infrastructure	City Contracting	Public Education
Robert "Rob" Couhig	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
John Georges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Troy Henry	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge
Mitchell "Mitch" Landrieu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
James Perry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nadine Ramsey	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge	No Pledge

For more information about FORWARD NEW ORLEANS, details on all seven issues and to pledge support, citizens are encouraged to visit www.forwardneworleans.com.

Editor's note: To schedule an interview with FORWARD NEW ORLEANS please contact Betsie Gambel at betsie@gambelcommunications.com.

Forward New Orleans is a diverse, issue-focused, community initiative led by the Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region in collaboration with more than thirty civic, neighborhood and business organizations, all of which are committed to improving the quality of life in New Orleans.

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