OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



For Immediate Release: September 15, 2010 For Further Information:
Frederick Boyd
Asst. Chief of Criminal Investigations
(504) 681-3204

OIG REPORT SUBSTANTIATES ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PUBLIC BELT RAILROAD COMMISSION

The City of New Orleans Office of Inspector General today released a Report of Investigation into allegations that the Board of Commissioners of the Public Belt Railroad violated Louisiana's Open Meetings Laws.

The investigation substantiated those allegations and referred the matter to the Mayor as President of the Commission on August 17, 2010. The Mayor has since stated his desire for the commission members to resign, and his intent to explore alternate governance options.

The investigation also found that three commissioners had failed to file the financial disclosure forms required by state law. This information was referred to the Louisiana Board of Ethics for its consideration.

Inspector General Ed Quatrevaux said, "Compliance with Open Meeting laws ensures that public business is done in public view, not in back rooms."

###

The report is attached to this press release. Other reports issued by the Office of Inspector General can be viewed and downloaded from the website at http://www.nolaoig.org.

###