

# 2008 Ethics Status Report

## Legislative Advocacy - Special & Regular Sessions of the State Legislature

- Citizens for 1 invited to address and to serve to on Governor Elect Bobby Jindal's Advisory Council - November 15, 2007.
- Citizens for 1 lobbied for ethics reform legislation in the special session of the state legislature in the spring of 2008 supporting the Governor's Ethics Reform package with LAEthics1 and specifically HB 80 which provides certain investigative and subpoena powers of a local ethics entity, local ethics review board, or office of inspector general in certain home rule municipalities and SB 56 which created the office of Inspector General in statute.
- Major pieces of legislation passed during special session (Governor's Office website)
- HB1 financial disclosure; SB1 prohibits contracts between state government and legislators and executive branch leaders; SB3 eliminates loophole for free cultural and sporting event tickets for elected officials; SB 8 caps food and beverages for public servants at \$50; HB 56 creates the office of Inspector General in statute; HB 8 expands whistleblower protection.
- Citizens applauds passage of the Ethics Reform legislation as signaling a new day for the state. "We applaud the leadership of the Governor and the forward thinking and determined citizens and elected officials who pushed for these vitally important ethics reforms — the keys to honest, open and responsible government. They made history happen and paved the way for a brighter future for our children and grandchildren. *Ruthie Frierson, Chairman*

## Inspector General and Ethics Review Board

- Citizens for 1 strongly supported the establishment of the Inspector Generals Office and the Ethics Review Board. Robert Cerasoli was approved as Inspector General by the New Orleans City Council in September of 2007.
- Citizens for 1 spoke in support of full funding of the Inspector Generals' office for 3.2 million at the City Council Budget Hearing in November 2007.
- Citizens for 1 hosted a forum on Ethics in Public Service featuring Inspector General Robert Cerasoli with Loyola University and Common Good and other community organizations at Loyola University on November 27, 2007.
- Citizens for 1 and Common Good sponsored a community meeting featuring IG Robert Cerasoli at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church on March 5, 2008.