

# I AM A VICTIM OF HURRICANE KATRINA

**Name: Walter Thomas**

**Disaster Address: 2201 Flood Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70117**

When KATRINA hit New Orleans on August 29, 2005, I was asleep on my couch at 2201 Flood Street, New Orleans, LA. When I woke up the next morning the couch was floating across the room, the water was rising very fast. I was able to get to the Attic. The water began to come into the attic, it got up to my neck, I got a board and knocked a hole in the roof large enough for me to climb on the roof of the house. The water rose above the roof of the house. A truck tire came floating by and I grabbed the tire and floated in the water until about 6:30 pm, approximately 10 hours before a friend came by in his boat and rescued me and a neighbor and took us to a school at Caffin and Claiborne Street. I helped to keep order at the school as more and more people were coming in and tried to keep a count of the people as they came in. I was at the school until the next evening. Wild Life and Fishery came and took everyone to St. Claude Street and we walked across the St. Claude Bridge to get into Military Trucks that were waiting to take us to the Superdome. I was at the Superdome about three days, I volunteered to help serve lunches and water to the evacuees and helped the EMS to help people with their medical needs. I was put on a bus that was taking us to Houston, Texas, when we got to Houston they waved us on and said they did not have room for any more people, the bus continued on to Dallas, Texas. Dallas was full and waved us on, we continued on to Fort Worth, Texas and they were full also. From Fort Worth we went to Arlington, Texas, they had a Center to accommodate us. About 8:00 am the next morning I became sick and was taken to the hospital, I was suffering from dehydration, high blood pressure and diabetics. I went to sleep and when I woke up all I could see was water and dead bodies floating. I was threatening a nervous breakdown. After two days at the Arlington Center I got an airline ticket and went to Mobile, Alabama where I have family that could help me. Once in Alabama, after about two months I was able to get a Fema Trailer and I stayed in Alabama until December 2006. I was sick and taking medical treatment during the time I was in Alabama. In December 2006, I went back to live in New Orleans and got a Handicapped Trailer from Fema. Katrina has left a permanent disability on my life, I don't feel if I will ever be the same again.

May 25, 2007

Walter Thomas  
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To Whom It May Concern:

I, Walter Thomas, AKA, Tommy Tee. I am writing this testimony about a telephone call I received from The Road Home Program while I was a patient in University Hospital in New Orleans, LA. I was hospitalized for colon cancer. After taking several tests I was Given Major Surgery for Stomach and Colon Cancer. Two days after surgery while I was still in recovery my cell phone rang, it was The Road Home Program calling. I had My cell phone on so I could let my family know what room I was in. The man I spoke With on the phone identified himself and told me he was calling to discuss my settlement. I told him I was in severe pain and suggested we do it at another time, he insisted on taking about the money. He said he had a check for me for \$86,000 and if I accept that amount he would put my application in the approved file. I again told him I was not able discuss it with him and please call me at another time. He told me he could not tell me when someone would be back in touch with me. As of this date I have not heard back from anyone from the Road Home Program.