

**Evelyn Green**

2021 ADDC President

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Dear Desk and Derrick Members,

It is with a heavy heart that I advise you that we will have to cancel the 2021 ADDC Annual Convention in New Orleans slated for September 21-25, 2021. As you are aware, Hurricane Ida hit New Orleans recently and there has been a great deal of devistation and damage to the city and the surrounding areas.

The Board of Directors this week, voted to cancel the Convention because of the damage and the unforseen difficulties that the city and surrounding areas will be facing in the coming days. We have sent a letter to the Astor Crowne Hotel and advised them of our decision.

We are not sure what damage, if any, that the Hotel has endured but with only a few weeks away, the only solution is to cancel. Although we were all looking forward to having time in person again, the safety and wellbeing of our members and their guest is first and foremost. We have to be attentive to what is best for everyone.

Please be assured that all fees that you have paid will be refunded in full. If you paid by check, then ADO will be advised to return your money as soon as feasible. If you paid through PayPal, all of your fees will be returned in that manner. Whatever credit card you paid with, the money will be sent to that through PayPal.

This brings us to another item – hotel reservations. As you, individually, made your hotel reservation, you will need to cancel it. We cannot cancel this for you, again because you made the reservation. The following link is what was provided to originally make your reservations:

**Go online (**[**https://book.passkey.com/e/50167145**](https://book.passkey.com/e/50167145)**)** It will take you to the website where you made your reservation on line with Crowne Plaza Hotel, and in the upper right part of the site, there is a tab labeled “Manage your Reservation” where you should be able to cancel your reservation. Or you may call the hotel direct at 504-962-0500 and cancel. If you have any problems, please let me know.

Just a reminder – in all of this hustle and bustle and the sudden change of plans, please don’t forget to cancel your airline reservations as well!

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The decision by the Board to cancel the Convention was not an easy one to make – to cancel a Convention for the second year in a row went against all of our wishes. We do hope you understand that it was a necessary action.

There will be a virtual meeting to conduct our business. The officers will be elected for 2022 and votes will be taken on the Proposed Amendments, which have already been presented to you, the membership.

A notice will be sent to the Club Presidents, meeting information, the date and time of the meeting and how to get into the meeting. Please be patient as we try to get this organized very soon.

I want to personally recognize and thank the members of the Host Club for Convention, the Westbank Club, who have worked very hard, lots of long hours and tirelessly to make sure that you would have had a wonderful time in New Orleans. And to all of the clubs in the Southeast Region – Thank you! There aren’t enough words to express my gratitude to each and every one of the members of these clubs.

We will look forward to being together at Regional Meetings in 2022 and at the 2022 Annual Convention.

Thank you, to each and every member of Desk and Derrick, for your support. And for your understanding in this very difficult time.

With many hugs and love to each of you,

Evelyn Green

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