Evacuees arrested for inciting a riot

Tuesday, September 2, 2008
A New Orleans woman and teen-ager were arrested today after creating a disturbance at the Red Cross shelter at Hirsch Coliseum.

Tammy Stalbert, 35, and a 16-year-old female relative were arrested by Caddo deputies for inciting a riot and resisting arrest, said Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator. Stalbert was booked into Caddo Correctional Center and the juvenile was booked into the Caddo Juvenile Detention Facility.

According to deputies, Stalbert became extremely belligerent, hostile, and disobedient after confronting deputies regarding medical treatment for her pregnant daughter. Deputies called for medical personnel to evaluate the girl; however, Stalbert continued to interfere with the evaluation by cursing emergency personnel, crowding, shouting, and urging others in her family to join in the disruption.

Deputies warned Stalbert that if she did not calm down and lower her voice that she would be arrested and removed from the facility. When she refused the deputies orders, she was arrested.

The juvenile, who identified herself as Stalbert's cousin, also became disruptive by screaming and cursing in the crowded facility. When deputies removed her from the coliseum floor, family members crowded the arresting officers, pulled on their clothing and arms, and attempted to help the 16-year-old get free from arrest.

Prator said once the Stalbert and the teen were removed from the coliseum, there were no further problems.