

# NewsRelease

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## PUBLIC PRINTER VISITS NEW ORLEANS LIBRARY STILL RECOVERING FROM HURRICANE KATRINA

WASHINGTON—Hurricane Katrina destroyed and damaged nearly 500,000 government publications at the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library at Tulane University in New Orleans. The library is a member of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), which is administered by the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO). Immediately after Hurricane Katrina, the library established a recovery center to restore the university's library collections. GPO helped coordinate with other libraries around the country to donate materials as part of this rebuilding effort. Public Printer Bob Tapella was given a tour of the recovery center, where nearly 100,000 restored documents are currently being processed.

Link to photos: <http://www.gpo.gov/news/images/index.html>

“We appreciate the Public Printer’s interest in our recovery and rebuilding efforts of government documents,” said Eric Wedig, Chief Bibliographer for Social Sciences and Government Publications, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library. “Without GPO’s digital collections, the library would not have been able to survive following the devastating damage we sustained from the hurricane. We appreciate GPO’s commitment and support in our rebuilding efforts.”

“I appreciate the staff at Howard-Tilton sharing with me the remarkable job they are doing in restoring the collections destroyed by Hurricane Katrina,” said Public Printer Bob Tapella. “GPO is committed to providing any assistance necessary to be sure the public has complete access to the documents of our democracy. Librarians are the unsung heroes in helping GPO carry out our mission of *Keeping America Informed*.”

The GPO is the Federal Government’s primary centralized resource for gathering, cataloging, producing, providing, authenticating, and preserving published U.S. Government information in all its forms. GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three Branches of the Federal Government. In addition to publication sales, GPO makes government information available at no cost to the public through *GPO Access* ([www.gpoaccess.gov](http://www.gpoaccess.gov)), and through partnerships with approximately 1,250 libraries nationwide participating in the Federal Depository Library Program. For more information, please visit [www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov).

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