FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2016

GRANT PROVIDES LAPTOP COMPUTERS
FOR EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Kenner, LA. – Acting Mayor Michael G. Sigur announced that the City of Kenner has acquired 15 Dell laptop computers through a federal grant program. The equipment, valued at approximately $16,000, will be used in the City’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and can be deployed to the field when needed.

“This new equipment will permit City Administrators, Directors and staff to better monitor and organize Kenner’s response to emergency conditions and evacuations. These computers will allow our incident management team to communicate more effectively, track personnel and resources and maintain accurate records needed for FEMA reimbursement”, said Sigur.

The EOC is utilized during hurricanes and severe weather events, like the February 23rd, 2016, tornado outbreak. The EOC is also capable of being activated on a moment’s notice to support Kenner’s Police, Fire and Public Works Departments to address any crisis, such as major crashes, hazardous materials, maritime, school, or rail incidents. The EOC is also used to coordinate municipal services during planned events, including festivals and parades, as well as training for our first responders.

Doug Dodt, Kenner’s Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, is a member of the Jefferson Parish Emergency Management Advisory Committee. The Committee works year round to identify parish and municipal homeland security and emergency preparedness needs. The Committee prioritizes projects and researches grants to secure funding for equipment and training. The Jefferson Parish Department of Emergency Management coordinated with Kenner’s Office of Emergency Management to acquire the equipment.

Kenner’s application for the equipment was approved by the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sets priorities and guidance for the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) that provided the funding.

For more information, check out Kenner’s Emergency Preparedness webpage at: http://www.kenner.la.us/pages/section_6_77.asp Contact the Kenner Office of Emergency Management at (504) 471-2100 or email: OEM@kenner.la.us.