

EDITOR’S INTRODUCTION

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Special Issue on Hurricane Katrina

The *Journal of Critical Incident Analysis (JCIA)* is an initiative of the Academy for Critical Incident Analysis (ACIA) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, The City University of New York (CUNY). ACIA was founded for the purpose of promoting a scholarly dialogue relating to the emergence, management, and consequences of critical incidents. Accordingly, *JCIA* is an extension of this purpose, and it is envisioned as an outlet for empirical research and theoretical discussions about critical incidents.

In issue one of volume two of *JCIA*, we present a special issue focusing on Hurricane Katrina. In the first article, “Using the Open Systems Perspective to Understand Critical Incidents,” Thompson develops a conceptual and generalizable framework to better understand how critical incidents evolve, using Hurricane Katrina as the primary example.

In the second article, “Guiding Principles: Rebuilding Trust in Government and Public Policy in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina,” Miller and Rivera use Hurricane Katrina as the backdrop for developing principles to promote effective civic engagement with the hope of rebuilding trust in government and the public policy process more specifically.

In the third article, “Race and Rights in Twenty-First Century New Orleans,” Penner examines the plight of New Orleans’s Lower Ninth Ward residents. The issues of displacement, property rights, and discrimination are central themes throughout. Through in-depth interviews, Penner provides a humanistic understanding of the struggles that Lower Ninth Ward residents have been forced to endure.

Each year, ACIA sponsors a case conference that focuses on a particular critical incident. In July 2010, the ACIA community chose Hurricane Katrina. Volume 2, issue 1 of *JCIA* concludes with Isaac’s monograph, “Reflections on Displacement and Its Consequences After Hurricane Katrina,” which chronicles the proceedings of this conference.

I would like to thank *JCIA*’s editorial board members and referees for their efforts, as well as our contributors for considering *JCIA* as an outlet for their work.