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Hurricane Katrina Takes Her Toll on 3 Metro Employees

- Byron England's daughter is missing in New Orleans
- Sharad Mulchand and family escape rising waters
- Deputy Bodrazka and dog, Hero, deploy to Mississippi

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(Sept. 1, 2005) Metro's Byron England hasn't heard from his daughter, LaShea, -- a student at Xavier University in New Orleans -- since Monday. He is praying that she is one of the evacuees.

Sharad Mulchand, a Metro transportation planning manager, and his family barely escaped before flood waters spawned by Hurricane Katrina overwhelmed the storm-damaged city. His daughter, Radha Mistry, was in New Orleans to begin her freshman year at Tulane University. [Get the story:](#) *Metro's Mulchand and Family Narrowly Escape Hurricane Katrina*

Meanwhile, Sheriff's Deputy Susan Bodrazka and her dog, Hero, were deployed, Wednesday, as part of a Federal Emergency Management Agency response team. A member of the Transit Services Bureau, Bodrazka and Hero will search for storm survivors in Mississippi. [Get the story:](#) *Deputy Bodrazka and Hero Will Search for Katrina Survivors*



Byron England, pictured here at the Allen Station of the Metro Gold Line on New Year's Day, 2005.

"Things aren't going too well," England said with frustration in his voice, Thursday morning, as he attempted to book a flight to Dallas or Houston -- any city he could reach that would be close to the disaster area. "I've been watching the newscasts and getting the same old story."

LaShea arrived in New Orleans from her home in Atlanta in mid-August and was preparing to begin the fall semester at Xavier, where she plans to study medicine. She had been living with a cousin and two others in a house, but had moved into a local Day's Inn for shelter when the storm hit.

England, the Metro Blue Line transportation division manager, last spoke with 18-year-old LaShea on Monday evening. He had planned to fly to New Orleans on Friday for a surprise holiday weekend visit.

"I called the Day's Inn corporate office and was told they weren't sure what's going on, but the guests had evacuated to the Superdome," said England, who still hasn't been able to confirm that information.

"I may just come back to work," he said. "Because there's nothing I can do here."

