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Byron England's Search Ends Happily – LaShea is Safe

- Rescued from New Orleans hotel, she's flown to Houston
- Also: [Blue Line's Anthony Precie Got Out Just in Time](#)

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(Sept. 6, 2005) After five anxious days when he didn't know whether his daughter, LaShea, had survived Hurricane Katrina, Metro's Byron England got the welcome news last Friday night – LaShea was safe!



Byron England breathed a sigh of relief when he learned his daughter escaped New Orleans floods.

Sept. 1> [Byron England's daughter](#) is missing in New Orleans

The 18-year-old Xavier University freshman, her aunt and a cousin – Jessica Cooper, a student at Dillard College – were rescued by military personnel from the hotel where they had sought shelter from the storm that devastated New Orleans, flooded homes and may have killed as many as 10,000.

The young women were taken to a nearby airport and flown out to Houston. Melvin Henry, a former colleague of England's at DART in Dallas, met them at a local church and drove them to his home.

Reached this morning at a Houston hotel, England was greatly relieved to have his daughter in a safe place – LaShea and Jessica were in the pool – and happy that she hadn't been placed in either the Superdome or the Astrodome.

LaShea and Jessica plan to fly to San Diego on Wednesday. England isn't sure where his daughter, who was in her second week at school, will attend college this fall.

"Right now, I'm trying to get her rested and make sure she's OK physically," he says.

As for himself, England plans to stay a couple more days in Houston to get some rest after his troubling ordeal and visit with friends at Houston Metro.

But, he says, "Everything worked out just fine. Thank everybody at Metro for their prayers and their support."