Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Monitoring Public Notice
September 2010

In accordance with National Park Service Law Enforcement Reference Manual RM-6, the public is to be notified when parks monitor security cameras through CCTV. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve uses CCTV for the purpose of monitoring security cameras to “help ensure public safety and security; facilitate the detection, investigation, prevention and deterrence of terrorist attack and crime; help ensure the safety of citizens and officers; help assist in the proper allocation and deployment of law enforcement and public safety resources; help facilitate the protection of the innocent and the apprehension and prosecution of criminals” (RM-9, 26.1). Furthermore, the cameras will used “only…to visually monitor public park areas and public activities where no constitutionally protected reasonable expectation of privacy exists” (RM-9, 26.1).

The following excerpt from RM-9, Chapter 26 orders that parks who have such programs allow for public notifications, specifically:

3.6 CCTV Public Notice and Comments

All parks using CCTV shall display a copy of the CCTV policy as part of their compendium and park website. The National Park Service encourages public comments regarding its CCTV policy and procedures contained in this policy, which we will periodically reexamine and which is a matter of public record and discussion. Appropriate government officials and the Solicitor’s Office must first review any suggested substantive revisions by the Park Service. Any public comments should be directed to the National Park Service’s Associate Director for Visitor and Resource Protection.

Please contact Chief Ranger John Hughes should you wish to comment about Jean Lafitte National Historical Park’s usage of CCTV camera monitoring. You can write the park at the address above, call 504-589-3882, or email the park at the Contact Us link that appears on the left site of most website pages.