

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, May 14, 2025 Contact: Pete Shipley, 614.965.0203 Email: pjshipley@columbus.gov

## City Attorney Zach Klein Announces Board Up of Dangerous East Side Drug House Connected to Fentanyl Trafficking and Criminal Activity

Says Columbus Police, Property Action Team and community tips helped build winning case to get the drug house shut down and improve neighborhood safety

**COLUMBUS, OH**— Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced that the Property Action Team secured a court order to shut down and board up a drug house located at 809 Byron Ave. in the city's Eastmoor neighborhood. The property had been on the City's radar for months, with CPD receiving nearly two dozen calls for service related to criminal and drug activity over the past year.

"Taking down properties that become magnets for crime and push fentanyl and other deadly drugs into our streets is a priority for the City Attorney's Office, and as soon as the Property Action Team had the evidence it needed to file with the Court, we took action to shut this place down," said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. "I'm thankful for the community input and the work of the Division of Police and Property Action Team that did the work to get this dangerous property shut down and improve public safety."

In April 2024, Columbus Police (CPD) received a report of drug dealing occurring at the premises, and over the past year, officers were called to the property 22 times for various incidents, including overdoses, persons with guns, multiple reports of drug sales, and prostitution.

In July 2024, CPD received a report of a woman being hit with a beer bottle and dragged to the rear of the premises. In August, CPD received a report of a shooting at the premises, and later that month also intercepted an individual attempting to purchase narcotics at the residence.

CPD raided the property twice in the past year based on investigations into drug activity occurring at the premises, including an October 2024 search that recovered four semi-automatic handguns, an assault-style weapon, cocaine, and a bag of cash. Police obtained a second warrant and searched the premises again in April 2025, which resulted in the arrest of one individual for

drug possession and another for possessing a firearm illegally. Police recovered three semi-automatic firearms, a rifle, methamphetamine, cocaine and fentanyl at the scene.

"The City remains aggressive in its approach to shut down drug houses and other problem properties that threaten public safety so that we can lift up neighborhoods," said Property Action Team Attorney Sophie Yano. "Shutting this drug house down is a positive step toward improving the quality of life for residents and families on the east side."