

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, August 2, 2024

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## City Attorney Zach Klein Announces Property Action Team Secures Order to Shut Down East Side Drug House

Brookside Drive home shuttered under Court order following some 20 calls for service for drug activity, overdoses and violent crime

**COLUMBUS**, **OH**—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced that the Property Action Team secured a court order to shut down an east side property that has had a history of drug activity and violent crime. Columbus Police (CPD) obtained and executed an order this week to board up the property located at 764 Brookside Drive.

"Public safety and the quality of life in all of our neighborhoods remain the top priorities of my office, and we will never hesitate to work with CPD, Code and the public to identify these dangerous properties and present a case to shut them down," said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. "Our friends and neighbors on the east side should not have to put up with this level of crime and drug activity, and I applaud the Court for siding with the City and shutting this property down."

According to court documents, CPD has received some 20 calls for service to the property over the past year, including calls for assaults, drug activity, overdoses, and the yard littered with trash and debris.

In July 2023, officers responded to the report of a death at the premises. An autopsy report found the cause of death to be a drug overdose. The individual reportedly often came to the premises to buy and use drugs.

In August and September 2023, CPD officers responded to several complaints from neighbors reporting drug activity at the premises, individuals occupying the house without any electricity or running water, and the yard littered with waste.

In October 2023, officers responded to a reported assault and robbery in the vicinity of the premises, with the victim telling officers that as he was leaving the premises, an unknown assailant grabbed him from behind, dragged him to the ground and struck him several times in the face and abdomen.

In February 2024, officers responded to multiple calls for service to the premises, including for an unresponsive individual and arson.

Court documents also indicate that the premises had been placarded by city Code Enforcement, but on multiple occasions in recent months, individuals have been trespassing on the property and found inside the house.

"CPD and Code helped build a strong case and now this property is under court order to be secured and no longer a threat to the health and safety of the neighborhood," said Assistant City Attorney Sophia Yano, the Property Action Team attorney for the city's east side neighborhoods. "But our work doesn't end with a court order. We will continue to monitor this property and will not hesitate to take further legal action to hold owners accountable if problems persist."

A preliminary injunction hearing is set for August 12 at 9:30 a.m.