



ZACH KLEIN
COLUMBUS CITY ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, August 3, 2021
Contact: Meredith Tucker, 614.965.0203
Email: mctucker@columbus.gov

City of Columbus Secures Order Declaring Colonial Village Apartments a Public Nuisance

*Court Order Demands Code Issues and Safety Violations Be
Resolved in 30-day Period or Face Appointment of Receiver*

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein announced today that at the hearing to determine the future of Colonial Village, the City of Columbus secured a court order to declare the property a public nuisance, and an agreement of enforceable orders and stipulations to bring the property into compliance with Columbus City Code.

The City of Columbus has been engaged with Colonial Village for several years in an effort to hold the property owners accountable for the criminal activity, violence, and countless code violations that have harmed the residents. This particular case has been extremely complex due to the change in ownership/defendants, the amount of residents currently living in these 508 units, and other factors.

In a permanent injunction hearing that concluded today, the City of Columbus participated in negotiations with counsel for the property owners, property management and certain named individuals for the settlement of certain issues in the case. The terms of the agreement were incorporated into a stipulated order for permanent injunctive relief.

“After years of working alongside CPD and Code Enforcement to improve the situation at Colonial Village, we are glad the court now has the authority to oversee and ensure this property is brought into compliance,” said City Attorney Klein. “Residents living at Colonial Village have suffered far too long, and we applaud the judge’s order which will bring long-overdue improvements to their quality of life.”

This property has been a high-crime area for the Columbus Division of Police, the site of several hundred code violations monitored and enforced by Columbus Department of Code Enforcement, and has been among the top of their worst properties list since 2018.

Since January of 2019, the Columbus Division of Fire has responded to the Premises over 700 times for drug overdoses, injuries due to assault, shootings, stabbings and individuals who were determined to be dead on arrival.

Since March of 2020, CPD has responded to approximately 1,500 calls for service to the Premises.

As a result of the court order, the current owners of Colonial Village are permanently enjoined from conducting, maintaining, or in any way permitting the use of the premises as a public nuisance.

Within thirty days of this order, the owners must bring the property into compliance of all the order's stipulations in the attached agreement, which include bringing the property into compliance with all applicable provisions of Columbus City Code, remediate all outstanding emergency violations of the code, as well as increased staff, maintenance, security, cameras, lighting, and more.

The hearing to determine compliance, contempt, or any other remedy available by law, including the receivership, will take place on September 14, 2021.

[Attached: Copy of Colonial Village Order](#)

###