



ZACH KLEIN COLUMBUS CITY ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, July 22, 2021
Contact: Meredith Tucker, 614.965.0203
Email: mctucker@columbus.gov

City Obtains Court Orders Against Two More West Side Properties

Public nuisance cases were bolstered by community input

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein announced today that the City of Columbus secured judicial orders against two residential properties that caused dozens of police runs for narcotics complaints, prostitution, domestic violence, burglary, stolen vehicles and other disturbances. The Columbus Division of Police responded to one of the properties more than 30 times this year alone and initiated an undercover investigation at the other property, obtaining evidence of repeated sales of crack cocaine.

Klein filed complaints for preliminary and permanent injunctive relief in the Franklin County Environmental Court against [776 Chestershire Road](#), a property associated with drug trafficking and street-level prostitution that is located just four blocks from Bishop Ready High School, and [3388 Wicklow Road](#), an owner-occupied home across the street from Westgate Park that was a drain on police resources due to the high volume of calls for service occurring there.

The Chestershire property was boarded up immediately following this morning's hearing while the Wicklow homeowner agreed to stipulations to abate the criminal conduct perpetrated at his property while still allowing him to remain in his home for the time being. The City is vacating all other residents at the Wicklow property.

“As we have always said, these tips from residents are critical to our efforts of shutting down dangerous properties in our community,” said City Attorney Zach Klein. “I’m grateful for our partnership with the Columbus Division of Police as we stay vigilant in our work to make our city safer.”

776 Chestershire Road

According to court documents, Columbus police have responded to the premises more than 20 times since May 2019 for calls for service that included burglary, domestic violence, a missing

person, stolen and/or suspicious vehicles, prostitution, and several complaints about illegal drug activity.

On March 22, 2021, a patrol officer was flagged down by a concerned neighbor regarding narcotics and prostitution activity at the premises. The officer observed numerous prostitutes coming and going from the house for approximately 30 minutes before an estimated 20-30 people exited the rear door and scattered throughout the neighborhood. The homeowner also came out of the residence and admitted that individuals were selling drugs out of the house. Another individual approached the officer and informed him that a female was overdosing inside the residence at that moment. Upon entering the house to assist the victim, the officer observed a well-known drug dealer and suspected human trafficker.

On April 26, 2021, police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle at the premises. The suspect allegedly was involved in a hit-skip accident shortly after stealing the vehicle.

On June 1, June 7, June 15, and June 16, 2021, detectives from the Investigative Tactical (INTAC) Unit conducted covert purchases of crack cocaine from the premises.

On June 18, 2021, the INTAC detectives executed a search warrant based on the covert purchases of narcotics along with activity consistent with street-level prostitution.

3388 Wicklow Road

In 2021 alone, Columbus police have been called to the premises over 30 times for numerous complaints.

On December 19, 2020, police responded to an armed robbery at the premises. The victim, who was wounded on his back, told officers that he had been “stabbed with a kitchen knife ten times.”

On May 5, 2021, police received a complaint regarding a person with a gun. The caller stated that he lived in the garage at the premises and reported that a suspect broke one of the windows and pulled a gun on him.

On May 19, 2021, police received another complaint regarding a person with a gun. The caller stated that a suspect had pulled a gun and also chased the caller down the street with a hammer.

On May 31, 2021, police received a report of a stolen Uhaul truck at the premises. The vehicle was confirmed stolen and a Uhaul employee stated he was at the premises and would wait on officers to arrive. Before the officers could get there, a suspect jumped into the vehicle and sped away.

“These two properties were having a dangerous and corrosive effect on their surrounding neighborhoods, especially given their close proximity to such

venerable community assets in Bishop Ready High School and Westgate Park,” said Assistant City Attorney Zach Gwin, who is the Zone Initiative attorney for the city’s west side. “We hope these court orders will help bring some level of relief to the residents who live nearby.”

###