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COLUMBUS CITY ATTORNEY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**City of Columbus Shuts Down South Side Drug House that Saw 18  
Overdoses in Last Two Years**

*Police received numerous complaints about alleged sales of heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine, responded to the property more than 50 times*

**COLUMBUS, OH**—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein announced today that the City of Columbus secured an emergency court order to board-up a south side residence that plagued a neighborhood near Marion Franklin High School with crime, drugs, and violence. The Columbus Division of Police received numerous complaints about alleged sales of heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine at the property and responded to the premises dozens of times since March 2019 for a litany of calls, including 18 drug overdoses, 14 disturbances, 11 narcotics complaints, five stolen vehicles, three complaints of a person with a gun, and two reports of shots fired.

The Franklin County Environmental Court granted Klein's motion for a temporary restraining order to evacuate and board-up [839 Bellevue Avenue](#) in the Green Hill neighborhood near Lockbourne Road and State Route 104. It's the eighth property in Police Zone Two, which covers the city's south and far-east sides, that has been the subject of a nuisance abatement lawsuit this year.

**“We have filed a total of 24 nuisance abatement lawsuits so far this year, which keeps us on pace to exceed last year's filings,” Klein said. “The pattern of crime, drugs, and violence at this property called for a board-up as we continue working every day to make our neighborhoods safer.”**

According to court documents, on August 13, 2020, Columbus police received a narcotics complaint that described the property as a “revolving door where

drug addicts live in the garage, in the shed beside the house and individuals shoot up heroin and fentanyl outside on the porch.”

In early October 2020, narcotics detectives conducted two covert purchases of heroin at the premises.

On October 13, 2020, officers executed a search warrant and recovered 10 grams of fentanyl, Xanax, a surveillance camera, multiple boxes of ammunition and shotgun shells.

Police officials subsequently sent a certified letter notifying the owner of the criminal activity occurring at the premises and the legal responsibility to abate nuisance. However, the illegal conduct continued.

On February 1, 2021, officers responded to a felonious assault complaint after a caller reported his company vehicle was stolen the day before and that he had located the vehicle at 839 Bellevue Ave. The caller approached the vehicle as one male ran into the residence while another male ran out and jumped into the stolen vehicle. The caller stated he told the man to stop, but he accelerated and drove straight into the caller, striking him.

**“We’re pleased the judge agreed with our position that this property posed an imminent danger to the surrounding area and had to be boarded up,” said Assistant City Attorney Christopher Clark, who is the Zone Initiative attorney for the city’s south and far-east sides. “We look forward to continuing to press our case at the defendant’s next court appearance.”**

A permanent injunction hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 19, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. [A copy of the signed order is attached.](#)

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