

**CITY OF MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWS ADVISORY**

Edward A. Flynn, Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LATIN KINGS GANG HOUSE SHUT DOWN

WHAT: Announcement of closure of Latin King gang house used for trading drugs for merchandise stolen in South Side burglaries

WHEN: 1 p.m., Friday, February 22, 2008

WHO: Milwaukee Police District Capt. Eduardo Negrón, City Attorney Grant Langley, Alderman Terry Witkowski

WHERE: District 2 Police Station, 245 W. Lincoln Avenue

DETAILS: In an effort to mitigate the city's nuisance properties and the blight they cause on neighborhoods, police and the City Attorney's office worked in concert to close a gang house used by the Latin Kings to trade stolen merchandise for drugs among gang members.

City Attorney Langley has filed an injunction against the owner of the property, located near S. 8th St. and W. Grange Ave. The nuisance complaint states that activity at the house has included drug dealing and dealing in stolen property.

Milwaukee Police believe the stolen merchandise recovered from the house represents the proceeds from at least 13 residential burglaries reported in the area. Now, police are asking victims of these burglaries to come forward to claim any merchandise that was taken in those crimes. Police have snow blowers, lawn equipment and tools, to name a few items that have been inventoried but for which we cannot readily identify the owner.

We will supply the media with pictures of these items in the hope that the owners may come forward to claim them.

"Nuisance properties interfere with the quality of life of residents in our neighborhoods and breed a climate of crime, fear and disorder," said Milwaukee Police Chief Edward A. Flynn. "Milwaukee Police are committed to working with the Community Prosecution Team to abate these properties and to returning the city's open spaces to its residents."

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