

City of Cincinnati



Interdepartmental
Correspondence Sheet

Date: 8-15-06

To: Colonel Thomas H. Streicher, Jr., Police Chief
From: Captain Richard J. Schmalz, District Four Commander
Copies to:
Subject: Third QUARTER 2006 PROBLEM SOLVING REPORT – Patrol BUREAU

Category: CPOP Case Case #: n/a District: 4 Neighborhood: Walnut Hills

Coordinating Personnel: Police Officer LaDon R. Laney

Description of Problem: Community Decline

Phase of SARA: Response

SARA Documentation

Scanning (state problem): This location has a history of drug sales and usage. Crime and disorder and an extreme high number of repeat calls for service for the above incidents. Between the dates of 1/1/05 to 6/7/06 there have been 474 calls for service to this address. This building has been the site of many community problems for many years, and the problem has been getting worse over the past 12 months. Various City Departments, including Health and Buildings and Inspections have documented numerous code violations.

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District Four Police has received numerous complaints from tenants of 2525 Victory Parkway and neighbors of the building. The problems at this building have been identified by city Departments through Cincinnati Police Department arrests and CFS data, citizen observations, complaints through the Walnut Hills Area Council, citizens on patrol and the Safety Task Force. Also, current residents of the Alms who are fearful of retaliation and feel as if they are "held hostage" in their own building have also sought help from the Walnut Hills Area council.

Analysis (identify factual support): Looking at the current list of residents reveals that of the 214 current residents of the Alms (38 families, 45 adults, 46 children), a vast majority of those are between the ages of 18-24. Also this is a HUD project-based building, which allows residents who are not employed to pay \$25 per month for rent; however if residents are employed, rent begins at \$600 per month for a one-bedroom apartment. This situation, along with the ages of a large majority of residents, plus an out of state owner, combines to create an unhealthy environment for the community. This address alone accounts for 14% of all reported Part 1 Crimes in Walnut Hills, and 25% of reported Part 2 Crimes.

The out-of-state based management company has been aware of the recurring problems, but have not been able to rectify the present unsafe conditions. Additionally, in 2004, the Supervisor of Housing Inspection, requested that HUD conduct an investigation of the management practices at the Alms, with a specific focus on looking at the high concentration of convicted felons living in the building.

Response (define action taken): With the implementation of our response we hope to reduce the calls for service and crime. To address the high volume of calls for service and reported crime, District Four Conducted multiple sweeps. The sweeps produced 51 people arrested. Fourteen felony arrests and 37 misdemeanor arrests. Property seized during these sweeps included 791 grams of marijuana, 6 grams of crack, 387 ecstasy pills, 30 valiums, 1.8 grams of heroin, 5 crack pipes and 5 vehicles towed under the civil cite ordinance.

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Assessment (document measurement):

Police Participation

Specific Feedback:

City Department Participation

Specific Feedback

- Buildings and Inspections
- Community Development & Planning
- Fire Department
- Health
- Metropolitan Sewer District
- Parks
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation & Engineering
- Water Works