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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
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# City Attorney Zach Klein Announces City Shuts Down Franklinton Drug House

*Stevens Ave. property had been on CPD's radar for illegal drug sales and use, as well as other criminal activity since 2022*

**COLUMBUS, OH**—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced the City obtained a temporary restraining order to shut down a Franklinton area drug house that had been the subject of an investigation by the Columbus Division of Police since 2022 for alleged drug trafficking and criminal activity. Following the court order, CPD boarded up the property located at 66 Stevens Ave.

**“Criminal drug activity has no place in our neighborhoods where residents want nothing more than a safe, vibrant community to live and raise their families,”** said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. **“Thanks to the Division of Police, the City secured an order to board up another dangerous, crime-ridden property and improve public safety for this area of Franklinton. We will continue to take aggressive action on problem properties across Columbus because everyone deserves a safe, secure place to live.”**

According to court documents, the property came onto CPD's radar following community complaints in 2022, and after an investigation by the Division's Narcotics Unit, a search warrant was obtained and executed in May 2022. During the search, officers found and seized cocaine from the premises.

In the ensuing months, CPD Narcotics surveilled the premises and observed behavior occurring consistent with narcotics trafficking, and in October 2022, police were dispatched to the property on report of shots fired at the premises. Upon arrival, officers saw what appeared to be multiple bullet holes and broken glass on the exterior of the building.

Later in 2022, police stopped a vehicle after its occupants were seen parked behind the premises, and one of the occupants was found to be in possession of apparent narcotics. Additionally, officers later talked with someone leaving the rear of the premises who informed police that drugs were regularly purchased at the property.

In January 2023, CPD and other law enforcement personnel executed another warrant, where they found 83 grams of cocaine and a semi-automatic firearm. Following the search, CPD Detectives informed property owners of their duty to abate the criminal drug activity occurring at the premises.

In July and October 2023, officers responded to two separate reports of individuals at the premises threatening others with guns. Later in October 2023 and also in January 2024, CPD Narcotics made covert purchases of apparent or counterfeit narcotics, including counterfeit cocaine.

**“The Columbus Division of Police worked tirelessly to gather the evidence needed to shut this dangerous property down and give area residents real peace of mind,”** said Assistant City Attorney Robert Doersam, the City’s lead attorney on the case. **“This area is safer now that this property is no longer an epicenter of drugs and crime.”**