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## **L.A. CITY ATTORNEY ROCKY DELGADILLO SUES THREE JEFFERSON PARK PROPERTY OWNERS AND FOUR ROLLING 30's CRIPS GANG MEMBERS FOR MAINTAINING DRUG HOUSES**

**LOS ANGELES** – Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo today announced that his office's Safe Neighborhoods Division has filed three civil lawsuits to stop public nuisance activity at three separate South Los Angeles properties used by the notorious Rollin 30's Crips Gang as neighborhood strongholds facilitating narcotics and other gang-related activities. The defendants in the lawsuit include the three property owners and four members of the Rolling 30's gang.

Among the Rolling 30's-controlled properties described in the lawsuits is a two-level structure at 2318 Jefferson Boulevard, which includes a bakery and four apartment units. This property is owned by Hye Won Lee, an Orange County resident, and occupied by Jerrod "Baby Mac" Baptist, an admitted Rolling 30's gang member who resides in one of the apartments. Baptist, along with other members of the gang, is alleged to have repeatedly sold narcotics from this property.

Between April 5, 2007 and October 30, 2007, law enforcement officers executed two search warrants at the property, made 10 narcotics-related arrests, observed numerous narcotics transactions, and responded to a shooting involving Jerrod Baptist.

Concurrent with the filing of the action involving 2318 Jefferson Boulevard, lawsuits were filed by City Attorney Delgadillo's Safe Neighborhoods Division to abate gang and narcotics activity occurring at 3417 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 3418 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue – properties located within one block of 2318 Jefferson and across the street from each other. Three additional Rolling 30's gang members, all of whom are, or were, occupants of 3417 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, were sued in that action. These defendants - Timothy "Nutty Joe" Riley, 20, Deonte Riley, 22, and Michael "Cadillac" Riley, 39 – are believed to be brothers. The Rolling 30's Crips use these three properties - frequently the sites of drug-related violence - to control narcotics trafficking in the area

The lawsuits seek to terminate the tenancy of the gang members and the implementation of numerous physical improvements to the properties, including additional lighting and removing structural fortifications installed by the gang members to inhibit LAPD's ability to serve search warrants.

In addition to substantial civil penalties, \$25,000 per defendant, costs of investigation, and permanent injunctions, City Attorney Delgadillo will also be seeking a one-year closure of each of the properties - which would result in the properties being vacated and boarded up, if the owners do not remedy the nuisance conditions at their locations.

The Rolling 30's gang, a primarily African-American criminal street gang, is one of the oldest and most notorious gangs in Los Angeles, with approximately 750 documented members. Members of the Rolling 30's are known to be responsible for homicides, armed robbery, aggravated assaults, criminal threats, intimidation and vandalism within their claimed territory, bounded by Jefferson Boulevard to the North, Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to the South, Crenshaw Boulevard to the West, and Normandie Avenue to the East.

This litigation is the latest in a series of legal actions in City Attorney Delgadillo's ongoing effort to curb gang activity and crack down on criminal hangouts through T.O.U.G.H. (Taking Out Urban Gang Headquarters), a new section of the City Attorney's Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP). T.O.U.G.H. locations will typically have a wide range of gang criminal activity associated with the property, ranging from quality-of-life crimes like drinking in public, to violent crimes like shootings, assaults with deadly weapons, murders, and robberies.

The T.O.U.G.H. program focuses on property abatements through lawsuits against property owners and gang members that seek aggressive and specifically-tailored injunctive relief. Since its inception, the T.O.U.G.H. program has shut down the headquarters of the Avenues gang in Northeast Los Angeles and has targeted several gang-controlled properties including those operated by the Black P Stones gang in Baldwin Village, Front Street Crips in Pacoima, and the Venice Shoreline Crips in the Oakwood neighborhood of Venice.

As part of City Attorney Delgadillo's new anti-gang action plan, CNAP will continue to abate nuisance properties with special attention paid to locations with a gang connection. If gang activity is extensive at a nuisance property, the case will be transferred for special handling to the T.O.U.G.H. program.

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