

NEWS**Show of force on the way to Madison's west side**

Kristian Knutsen on Wednesday 09/12/2007 4:33 pm

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Madison police announced Monday that they are stepping up enforcement on the southwest side of Madison in response to increasing concerns about crime in that area of the city, particularly the Orchard Ridge and Meadowood neighborhoods. On Monday, September 10 Captain Jay Lengfeld of the MPD's West District sent a letter to the "Residents of West Madison" describing the department's plans

"The primary focus of this enforcement activity will be on public disorder and other illegal behavior that negatively impacts citizen's quality of life," wrote Lengfeld. "I am strongly encouraging officers to issue citations and make physical arrests where appropriate."

The city ordinances that officers have been asked to focus on cover a gamut of behaviors, though all would traditionally be characterized as non-violent. They include noise violation (a fine of \$172), curfew violation (\$52), permitting a dog to run at large (\$109), depositing human waste products (\$172), persons not to congregate on streets or sidewalks (\$298), and unlawful fireworks (\$424), among many others (see document at right)

All violations generally fall within the kind of quality-of-life issues, or "broken window" crimes, that many cities have taken to enforcing more aggressively in recent years, particularly in areas reputed to have higher rates of more serious property and violent crimes

"Arrests for violations of the above ordinances could also have further consequences in civil law," concludes Lengfeld. "Property owners could be subject to a variety of nuisance abatement actions. Renters could face non-renewal or eviction."

Lengfeld's letter was issued four days before a meeting in the gym of St. Maria Goretti school, where MPD Chief Noble Wray and Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz will be speaking with neighborhood residents to discuss these issues and the city's plan to address them.



Madison Police Department

City-County Building
211 S. Carroll Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
608 266 4022
(TDD) 608 266 6562

Noble Wray, Chief of Police

NOTICE OF INCREASED POLICE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

September 10, 2007

Dear Residents of West Madison,

I am writing to notify you that the Madison Police Department will be increasing enforcement activity on the Southwest side of Madison. The primary focus of this enforcement activity will be on public disorder and other illegal behavior that negatively impacts citizen's quality of life. I am strongly encouraging officers to issue citations and make physical arrests where appropriate.

As a reminder, here are some ordinances that will be strictly enforced:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| MGO 24.02(1) DISORDERLY CONDUCT | \$424 |
| MGO 24.09(6), 24.04(1) & 24.04(2) NOISE VIOLATIONS | \$172 |
| MGO 23.06(2) DAMAGE TO PROPERTY | \$676 |
| MGO 23.07(2) UNLAWFUL TRESPASSING | \$424 |
| MGO 23.11(2) CURFEW VIOLATION | \$52 |
| MGO 23.32(1) PERMITTING DOG TO RUN AT LARGE | \$109 |
| MGO 38.07(7) POSSESSING AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL ON A PUBLIC STREET | \$298 |
| MGO 12.011 STANDING ON ROADWAY | \$58.60 |
| MGO 12.011 SPEEDING | \$83.80-424.00 |
| MGO 12.011 PARKING ACROSS SIDEWALK | \$30.00 |
| MGO 10.17 LITTERING ON PUBLIC STREETS OR PUBLIC GROUNDS | \$298.00 |
| MGO 7.321 DEPOSITING HUMAN WASTE PRODUCTS | \$172.00 |
| MGO 8.21 PUBLIC PARKS CLOSED DURING CERTAIN HOURS (10 PM TO 6 AM) | \$109.00 |
| MGO 10.16(1) DEPOSIT OF INOPERABLE VEHICLE ON STREET | \$298.00 |
| MGO 10.26 PERSONS NOT TO CONGREGATE ON STREETS OR SIDEWALKS | \$298.00 |
| MGO 23.065 GRAFFITI ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE PROPERTY | \$676.00 |
| MGO 34.31 UNLAWFUL FIREWORKS | \$424.00 |

Arrests for violations of the above ordinances could also have further consequences in civil law. Property owners could be subject to a variety of nuisance abatement actions. Renters could face non-renewal or eviction. The Madison Police Department is committed to working with you to keep the City of Madison safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the West district at 243-0500.

Sincerely,

Jay Lengfeld
Captain of Police
West District