



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Victorian Village Inc. Community Development Corporation Kicks off Safety Patrol Survey

May 7, 2009 — A group of residents and businesses in Victorian Village will take to the streets after dark this Monday, May 11, to identify poor lighting and safety issues. This “Safety Patrol” of the neighborhood between Poplar and Madison, Manassas and Danny Thomas is the first activity of the Crime and Safety Committee. The group includes residents and members from The Urban Child Institute, Neely’s BBQ, Molly Fontaine Lounge, Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center, and the City of Memphis and the University of Tennessee Police Departments.

Good advice came from W. Winslow “Buddy” Chapman, Executive Director of Crimestoppers of Memphis. “Start with the obvious issues that are easy to resolve, such as non-working street lights. Check line-of-sight problems with tree branches, shrubbery, and any other problematic areas. Then move on to the next task,” said Mr. Chapman, “and don’t give up.” The next initiative may be requesting additional street lights and asking businesses to light up their alleys.

The volunteers will gather across the street from Neely's BBQ at sunset on Monday evening. As a group, they will be mapping the zones that need attention.

Executive Director, Scott Blake, is encouraged by the collaborative efforts of the area's stakeholders. "We know that crime prevention is a partnership with our police and medical center security team. Being aware, alert, and connected is the key."

Victorian Village Inc. is exploring the concept of instant text alerts to residents and businesses when a crime occurs. For more information about this organization, visit www.victorianvillageinc.org.

Victorian Village Inc. Community Development Corporation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The mission of Victorian Village Inc. is to create a vibrant and diverse urban neighborhood that treasures our architectural heritage and builds a community that is safe, clean and prosperous.

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