



Warren C. Evans
Sheriff

News Release

www.waynecounty.com/sheriff

Release Date: March 27, 2008

Contact: Ofc. John Roach, 313-213-5162

Project CRUSADERS uses adaptive approach to moving target of neighborhood crime

◆ ***Sheriff floods another hotspot with wide range of enforcement efforts***

CRUSADERS = Crime Reduction Utilizing Statistical Analysis, Data Evaluation & Response Strategies

Residents in Detroit's Jefferson East neighborhood are the latest to see an intensified and highly visible presence from Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies as part of Project CRUSADERS, Sheriff Warren C. Evans announced today.

As part of a three-day initiative that ends Friday, the Sheriff's Office has flooded this eastside community - bounded by Vernor, Alter, Connor and the Detroit River - with a wide range of enforcement units, including narcotics, prostitution, auto theft, traffic patrol, DDOT patrols and fugitive apprehension. Deputies, along with Michigan Department of Corrections agents also are going door to door to check on parolees and probationers in the area to make sure they are complying with the conditions of their supervised release from court of prison.

"The purpose of this moving operation is to saturate a neighborhood that has been experiencing some crime problems with specialized Sheriff's Office units of all types for maximum impact," Evans said. "By the end of these three days, much of the criminal element in this area will be in jail, have moved elsewhere, or been thrown completely off their game."

Evans said the CRUSADERS effort, which is designed to support the daily activities of the Detroit Police Department and other local agencies, has resulted in a lower number of reported crimes in the targeted area for several weeks following the initial blitz.

#more#

Last week, the CRUSADERS effort visited the Virginia Park neighborhood, where deputies raided several drug houses and made more than 30 arrests for a number of different offenses.

“The important thing about CRUSADERS, is that it is a data driven approach to fighting crime,” Evans said. “We go where the numbers and the complaints tell us there have been a lot of problems. We hit that area hard, and while the shock waves are still being felt, we move on to the next area.”

In recent months, the Jefferson East neighborhood has been struggling with complaints about open drug deals, prostitution, robberies (armed & unarmed), auto theft and a variety of nuisance crimes.

“We know that this effort will not be the solution to all of those problems on a long term basis, but the more we can keep the crooks off balance before we come back again, the safer this area will be,” Evans said.