



PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

MAYOR RANDALL L. WOODFIN

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rick Journey

Phone: 205.254.2823

rick.journey@birminghamal.gov

City of Birmingham Sues Cru Birmingham, LLC as a Nuisance Property Due to Exhibition Driving, Other Criminal Activity

BIRMINGHAM, AL – The City of Birmingham’s Office of the City Attorney is suing the owners and operators of Cru Birmingham, LLC seeking a judge to temporarily close the business that has been “used as a breeding ground for community activity on surrounding residents and citizens.” Both Cru Birmingham, LLC and owner, PFS Birmingham II, LLC, are named in the case.

The city cites continued problems for the past month including dangerous exhibition driving, lewd behavior and excessive noise violations at the 2300 1st Avenue North location. Birmingham Police have responded to calls related to a person shot following an altercation on the property, multiple traffic issues created by patrons and excessive numbers of people loitering at the property.

The city contends Cru Birmingham, LLC has failed to take steps to stop or curtail the illegal activity. The court filing states the property is a “haven for lewd and lascivious behavior by its patrons, excessive loiterers, and any other member of the public who might decide to enter... with the intent to engage in criminal activity.”

The city is requesting the court to:

- Issue an order requiring Cru Birmingham, LLC to take the necessary steps needed to eliminate any and all criminal activity
- Allow the city to prohibit Cru Birmingham, LLC from continuing to operate if it fails to comply

The city has asked the court to grant an emergency hearing and grant a protective order related to the identities of residents who wish to testify on the matter.

The Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 6-5-156.3 allows municipalities to seek a permanent injunction of a property preventing further use as a drug nuisance and to seek damages pursuant to Section 6-5-155.6 (d)(4).

In the spring of 2020, City Attorney Nicole King created the Office of the City Attorney's Drug and Nuisance Abatement Team, also known as DNAT, which works through the courts to hold landowners accountable for keeping their properties clean and getting rid of crime and blight associated with nuisance issues. More than 120 properties have received demand for corrective action. DNAT continues to investigate other properties. DNAT works closely with the Birmingham Police Department to identify areas where landlords are not taking care of properties or providing inadequate security.

Problems with drug and nuisance properties can be reported via email to problemproperty@birminghamal.gov or residents may call the internal Drug and Nuisance Abatement Team at 205-254-2369 during normal business hours.