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EXECUTIVE



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PRESS RELEASE

Ficano, Worthy, Clarke and Kilpatrick Announce New Charges Against Landlord

On Wednesday, February 23, 2005 Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy, along with State Senator Hansen Clarke announced charges issued against Woodrow Williams of Detroit. Senator Clarke introduced legislation regarding lead-based paint and the law was enacted in November of last year. This is the first case the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has charged under the new law.

Wilson was charged with Renting of a Residential Housing Unit containing Lead-Based Paint Hazard, contrary to MCL 333.5475a. The charge carries a penalty of 93 days in jail and/or a fine of up to \$5,000. Arrangements have been made for Wilson to turn himself in on the charges later this week.

The housing unit is located on Edwards in the City of Highland Park. A two-year old child was taken to Children's Hospital by his mother, complaining of fatigue, weight loss and fever. The child tested positive for lead poisoning. The hospital notified the Wayne County Health Department who assessed the apartment and discovered lead based paint on window troughs. The lead levels were as high as 140,000 micrograms per square foot. The acceptable limit is 400 micrograms per square foot.

Deputy Mayor Anthony Adams was present on behalf of City of Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick to announce the first inter-governmental agreement between the City of Detroit and the Office of the Wayne County Executive, the Office of the Wayne County Prosecutor, the Wayne County Health Department and the Detroit Health Department. The parties will engage in a collaborative project to target and prevent lead-based paint poisoning in minor children residing in Wayne County.

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