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**City of Duluth Communications Office**

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411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
218-730-5230 | [www.duluthmn.gov](http://www.duluthmn.gov) | Don Ness, Mayor

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309  
or Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-4312

**DATE: 09/11/2009**

**SUBJECT: City will receive grant to improve community safety**

**BY: Pakou Ly**

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## **City will receive grant to improve community safety**

The City of Duluth Police Department and City Attorney's office will receive a \$300,000 grant to collaborate on a new project to fight blight and nuisance properties. The grant will provide funding for a Community Police Officer, Prosecuting Attorney and a Criminal Analyst Assistant.

The City will be able to address quality of life issues such as nuisance crimes and blight including loud parties, abandoned homes and vehicles in target neighborhoods. The grant will also help establish block watch groups, organize training and engage neighborhoods. Residents will have improved relationships with the police department.

"The opportunity for relationship building is critical to successfully address blight and nuisance crimes," says Chief Gordon Ramsay.

The grant is provided by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs. This award was made possible from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

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