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City of Duluth Communications Office

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SUBJECT: New City Office to Address Quality of Life Issues

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

New City Office to Address Quality of Life Issues

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth is offering a new and more effective way of addressing quality of life issues by co-locating core services to form the new Life Safety Office. Residents renewing a rental license or who have concerns about neighborhood blight can now contact the Life Safety Office, in the downtown Fire Station, starting January 3, 2011.

Life Safety is a new division that co-locates the services of the Fire Marshall's office, housing code and rental licensing, and the Solid Waste compliance program, previously located in City Hall. The new division will oversee fire inspections, fire investigations, housing code enforcement, rental licensing, solid waste, abandoned property and vehicles, and blight. With the change, the Building Safety division, located in City Hall, will focus their work on new construction and support the *One Stop Shop* model for new construction and developments.

The mission of the new office is to maintain life safety in commercial and residential buildings. The combined knowledge, experience, and enforcement tools will reduce duplication of services and provide more streamlined code compliance.

The Life Safety office is located in the basement level of the Duluth Fire Department Headquarters, 615 West First Street. Customers will experience easy access, convenient parking, and quality one on one customer service. The Life Safety Office can be reached by phone at (218) 730-4380. A grand opening event is planned for January 2011.

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