



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Police Department

2030 North Arlington Avenue, Duluth, MN 55811
18-730-5400 | www.duluthmn.gov | Mike Tusken, Interim Chief of Police



For more information contact Ron Tinsley, Public Information Officer 218-391-1510

DATE: 5/11/2016

SUBJECT: Graffiti Cleanup and Removal Event

BY: DPD Public Information Officer R. Tinsley

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Media Notification

CASE NO.:

INCIDENT DATE: 5/12/2016

INCIDENT TIME: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

INCIDENT LOCATION: Duluth Area

On Thursday, May 12th, 2016, Duluth Police and Fire Departments, Painters Union Local 106, Greater Downtown Council Clean and Safe Team, along with several other volunteers will be engaging in the removal of graffiti in and around the City of Duluth. Graffiti has been identified as a public nuisance in the city and there is an ordinance which requires private property owners to remove graffiti within 14 days of notification.

Subscribing to successful crime prevention initiatives, such as the "Broken Window Theory", works to address small problems before they become larger ones. Graffiti is considered vandalism and the sooner it is removed, the less likely someone else will come along and do the same. When petty crime and low-level anti-social behavior is deterred, major crime has a tendency to be greatly reduced. A maintained neighborhood sends the signal that criminal activity will not be tolerated.

Thursday's initiative is to remove graffiti on city owned properties. Three groups of volunteers consisting of Duluth Police and Firefighters along with several other volunteers from the community will disperse throughout the city removing graffiti from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Currently the Police and Fire departments are looking at ways to engage community members to sustain graffiti removal efforts throughout the city.