Housing Authority Gets Tough — Gives Metro Police Authority to Remove Undesirables from Complexes

By Victor S. Ingram

In an official letter to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Las Vegas Housing Authority Executive Director Frederick Brown called for increased security for agency housing complexes.

Dated May 25, the letter provides virtually unrestrained authority to Metro police to remove "undesirable individuals" from properties.

The letter provides for the removal of non-residents,

quests, or visitors who come to housing authority properties to participate in gang activity, theft, or drug sales, says housing authority safety director John

"Housing authorities in general throughout the United States are targeted for primary illegal activities," says Phillips. The augmentation of additional security, adds Phillips, is the agency's proactive approach to the problem.

Most crimes committed in

housing complexes, he adds, are committed by those who do not live in housing properties. "They come in do their act and move on." Complexes generally have a single parent mother with 2-3 children which adds to the vulnerability of residents, he

"This makes (housing complexes) prime targets for theft, drug activity, and gangs." The letter to Metro provides arrest authority under the jurisdiction of trespassing.

Preliminary response has produced more than 100 arrests for a variety of offenses. The housing authority has over 5000 units with 22 individual properties.

More than 15,000 residents live in city housing complexes making it the largest public housing entity in the state.

Resident safety and security plague the local agency as well as national agencies throughout the United States. Summer months additionally provide for

an escalation of gang related activity and violence. An increased police presence, adds Phillips, is the first phase in reclaiming properties from thugs. Plans to relocate a North West Metro sub station to Gerson Park Housing complex have been finalized. The complex is on the forefront of gang activity and drug sales. Resident patrols and

have already been implemented in two housing complexes.

Residents have been equipped with two-way radios and cellular phones donated by AT& T Wireless Services to provide early warning to police of any illegal activity. "It's all part of our effort to provide safe affordable housing to the residents of the housing authority."

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Dr. Callender is a native of New York and was educated in their public schools and colleges. he attended Hunter College located in Bronx, new York where he received his Bachelor of Arts. He then earned his doctor of medicine degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was the top ranking medical student. His first year as an assistant resident was spent at Harlem Hospital in New York, and went on for additional surgical training at Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C. His surgical 100 scientific publications.

transplant training was done at two of the premiere transplant programs in the United States.

He completed training for kidney transplants at the University of Minnesota under the direction of Dr. John S. Najarian; and his training in liver transplants was done with Dr. Thomas Starzl at the University of Pittsburgh.

Since returning to Howard University Hospital, Dr. Callender has helped develop the only minority directed dialysis and transplant center in the country and authored more than

Howard University Hospital has an active Kidney and Liver Transplant Center with the only minority managed Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Laboratory in America.

Although Dr. Callender has received numerous honors and awards, he downplays these accomplishments. "It is my dream that I be remembered as a God-fearing surgeon who reached the unreachable star."

Las Vegas sponsors of his visit are: University Medical center, University of Nevada School of medicine; Sunrise Hospital and Medical center; Nevada Donor Network; Merck Human Health Division; and Ortho Biotech. To reserve seats at one or both of these free events, please call the University of Nevada School of Medicine Department of Surgery at 385-1980, extension 13.

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City Manager Linda Hinson will be discussing the reorganization of government. Rose McKinney James, Nevada Director of Business and Industry, is the keynote speaker for Saturday's luncheon. For information or to sign up for the conference, call Thelma Flowers at (702) 229-2549 or fax (702) 646-3735.



Highlights of the Historic Moulin Rouge's Ruby Anniversary celebration will be a musical tribute to show business legends of the past, many of whom performed in the lavish production show at Las Vegas' first inter-racial hotel & casino, the Moulin Rouge, when it opened 40 years ago.

Sarann Knight Preddy, the Moulin Rouge's owner, and Katherine Duncan, Executive Director of the Moulin Rouge Preservation Association announced that over the past several weeks auditions and interviews have been held to select young and budding artists who will pay tribute to such show business legends as Benny Carter, Hines, Hines & Dad (Gregory Hines' early act with brother Maurice, and father Chick Hines), Lionel Hampton, Dinah Washington, the Original Platters & a Dish, Stump & Stumpy, George Kirby, Ahmad Jamal, Wild Bill Davis, and other giants of the theatre such as the late Cab Calloway who did not appear at the Rouge, but who were stellar performers of the era.

Duncan stated that the Moulin Rouge Preservation Association is delighted to have obtained the services of well known entrepreneur Bob Bailey, who came to Las Vegas in 1955 as a star of the premier Moulin Rouge Revue, and that of Cholly Atkins, nationally heralded as "The Man Who Taught Motown How To Dance," and who still blocks out moves for the O'Jays, the Temptations and Gladys Knight from his home here in Las

Showtime is scheduled for this Saturday, July 1st, at 8:00 p.m. following a 6:30 p.m. VIP reception to be held in the Rouge's original showroom which has been closed for 40 years. Tickets are priced at \$75, \$40 and \$20, and are available at the Moulin Rouge.

Additional information on the Historic Moulin Rouge Anniversary celebration or on tickets can be obtained by calling 648-5040.

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