



OFFICE OF THE YOLO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

301 Second Street
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 666-8180--Fax (530) 666-8423

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Amended Civil Injunction Sought Against Broderick Boys Criminal Street Gang

Woodland, CA — July 31, 2007 — After consulting with civic leaders from the City of West Sacramento, the Yolo County District Attorney's office has filed an amended civil complaint with the Yolo County Superior Court seeking injunctive relief against the Broderick Boys criminal street gang, including 23 individually named Broderick Boy gang members. This begins the process that could lead to the court issuing a new injunction. Depending upon issues and circumstances the process could take several weeks or months.

In April of this year, the Third District Court of Appeal overturned an original injunction against the Broderick Boys gang that had been issued by a Yolo County Superior Court Judge in February of 2005. The injunction had survived multiple challenges at the lower court level. In reaching its decision, the Court of Appeal specially noted that the evidence revealed "a level of gang criminality plaguing West Sacramento which might well justify injunctive relief." However, the appellate court held that the injunction could not stand because of two technical issues related to the procedure used to sue the gang as an "unincorporated association" and the process used to notify the gang of the lawsuit. The process of suing a gang as an "unincorporated association" was common practice for establishing gang injunctions throughout the State.

The amended civil lawsuit alleges that members of the Broderick Boys criminal street gang have continued to engage in violent and serious criminal conduct within the City of West Sacramento thereby creating a public nuisance subject to injunctive relief. As in its original lawsuit, the State is seeking a geographically limited Court order to prevent gang members from carrying weapons, intimidating citizens, associating in public and possessing graffiti tools. The lawsuit also seeks a court ordered curfew to prohibit identified gang members from being out in the affected area between 10 p.m. and sunrise, without a legitimate purpose.

The West Sacramento Police Department supports the pursuit of the amended injunction citing previous experience that gang injunctions clearly work in reducing gang activity. When combined with intervention, education and traditional enforcement, injunctions provide a critical component in a full circle approach to the issue. During the period of time that the original injunction existed in West Sacramento, crime statistics in the neighborhoods encompassed by the court order improved. The Police Department will have stringent review and appeal processes to insure that only those who pose the greatest risk to the community are included under any future injunction order by the Court.

Gang Injunctions are currently in place across California, including: San Francisco, Fresno, Los Angeles, San Diego and Santa Barbara.

The first hearing in the case is set for August 2, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. in the Yolo County Superior Court.

For more information contact: Deputy District Attorney Jay Linden (530) 666-8180