



**Racine Police Department**  
730 Center Street • Racine Wisconsin, 53403

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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Date: Thursday, June 26, 2008

No: 08-24 – For Immediate Release

**Subject: OPENING OF NEW C.O.P. HOUSE**

On Tuesday, July 1, 2008 at 5:00PM, The Racine Police Department will celebrate the opening of its' newest Community Oriented Policing House. There will be a short ceremony followed by refreshments and tours. This latest addition to the C.O.P. House inventory was a team effort, utilizing the resources of The Community Outpost, Neighborhood Housing Services, The Racine Police Department, and several contractors.

The new house is located at 1146 Villa St, at the northwest corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and Villa Streets. On Thursday, March 13, 2008, the walls were delivered to the site and the house began its' transformation from an empty pair of lots with a hole in the ground, to the 2-story four bedroom, three bathroom house we see there today.

As with all of the C.O.P. houses, this one will have a conference room and several bedrooms, converted to offices. There will be a Racine Police Officer assigned to the house who will headquarter here, working with those that live in the neighborhood. His job will include addressing needs that are specific to those in the neighborhood, as well as increasing a more positive image for the Department in the area.

Typically, Department of Correction Probation & Parole officers maintain an office and meet their clients in the C.O.P. House. The Gang Diversion Task Force typically will occupy some space in the houses. Additionally, the oversized garage is set up as a conference room. This meeting space works out well for a multitude of organizations that require centralized meeting space.

The concept of a C.O.P. House is one of taking an area that needs some attention, placing the House and its' available services there, in hopes that there will follow a reduction in crime in that area. At the same time, the hope is that there develops enough confidence in the neighborhood that more investment by homeowners and landlords will follow; thereby improving the quality of life for the individual residents as well as the neighborhood as a whole. This program has been a success since its' inception in late 1993.

This C.O.P. House will replace the house currently located at 1009 Davis Place.

All media inquiries regarding the incident should be directed to my attention at (262) 635-7772.

Sergeant Bernard Kupper  
Public Information Officer