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<u>MEDIA ADVISORY</u>

DA Anti-Gang Permanent Injunction Hearing Today

Houston, Tx – The hearing for the first permanent injunction ever against criminal gangs in Harris County began today (Monday, Feb. 7) at 9 a.m. in the state 164th Civil District Court.

Harris County District Attorney Patricia Lykos is seeking the action to permanently bar gang activities and 47 known members of the Crip and Blood gangs from a newly established 57-acre safety zone around the Haverstock Hills apartment complex in northeast Harris County. The action will give permanent status to a temporary injunction obtained by the District Attorney's Office last Dec. 10.

Evidence presented in an earlier hearing showed that Haverstock Hills had been plagued for years by criminal gangs that terrorized and victimized the 2,400 residents there. The injunction is among several long-term initiatives by the District Attorney's Office to rid the county of gangs and their influence.

Judge Alexandra Smoots-Hogan, who granted the temporary injunction, is presiding over the hearing today. It will held in her 164th District Court on the 12th floor of the Harris County Civil Courthouse at 201 Caroline. Prosecutors in the action are Kim Ogg and Joni Vollman, Chief of the District Attorney's Special Prosecutions Bureau. (end)