



For Immediate Release

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STATEMENT FROM MAYOR RON DELLUMS

Re: Recent Takeover Robberies

OAKLAND – August 7, 2008 - “These takeover robberies have struck at the very heart of our community, because it affects the desire of people to be able to go out at night, to go to restaurants and to go to stores. This has to end and we are being very aggressive in how we deal with this issue. The police chief, members of my staff and I have been working over the last couple of days to develop a plan on how we cope with this issue in our commercial districts and across the city.

“The desperation of these crimes speak to the broader issue of where we are in terms of this economy. When people become this desperate, they take desperate acts and we have to do everything we can to get to the root causes of crime and violence. As I’ve said before, failure is not an option and we will continue to work every single day to address these issues. We are looking at the deployment of our police, whether or not we engage these business corridors by bringing on private security, or whether we bring in voluntary organizations like the Guardian Angels.”

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