



For Immediate Release

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STATEMENT FROM MAYOR RON DELLUMS

Re: Recent Home Fires in West Oakland

OAKLAND – Thursday, July 24, 2008 - “Today, I personally spoke to concerned and engaging residents in the neighborhoods that were affected by these fires. One of the reasons I visited the community in West Oakland was to tell residents that they should never fear standing up for the safety of their community and I am committed to standing with them as we work together to bring peace to our streets. What we do know is that two fires that took place in vacant homes were more than likely caused by arson. However, we are unclear as to the motive behind these acts, because there were conflicting views from various individuals from within the neighborhood. I will continue to work with the police and fire departments during their ongoing investigations to ensure that justice is done regardless of intention. Furthermore, during my visit with residents, I listened attentively to their concerns regarding quality of life that I plan to address as expeditiously as possible.”

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