



Oakland Police Department

Howard A. Jordan  
Acting Chief of Police

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Oakland Residents Called To Host Block Parties on August 4th**

*National Night Out 2009*

- WHAT:** Oakland – Mayor Ron Dellums, the Oakland Police Department and the Neighborhood Services Department urge Oakland residents to participate in National Night Out (NNO) on AUGUST 4, 2009 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. NNO is America's block party, opportunity for residents to organize a barbeque, ice cream social, or other event that is designed to both strengthen neighborhood spirit and unity, and raise crime prevention awareness, by helping neighbors get to know each another.
- DATE:** Wednesday, July 15, 2009
- TIME:** 10:00 A.M.
- WHO:** "National Night Out" Coordinator Felicia Verdin  
Acting Chief of Police Howard Jordan  
Public Safety Coordinator, Dori Reed (Mayor's Office)  
Tina Ramos, Member from the Community
- LOCATION:** Oakland Police Department, 455 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, **9<sup>th</sup> floor.**

### **Background:**

A specific goal for NNO would be to communicate to the community that the City understands the various public safety challenges and that a comprehensive public safety strategy is underway. Earlier this year, Mayor Dellums made a commitment to reduce crime by 10 percent and so far homicide is down more than 20 percent, according to police department statistics. Assaults with firearms are down almost one-third. Part 1 crimes — everything from assault to burglary — are down about 13 percent this year. While it is impossible to pinpoint all of the factors driving the crime rate down, Mayor Dellums, OPD, and the Oakland community, at critical moments, took a stand to reform public safety in Oakland, including:

- Fully staffing the police department;
- Bolstering relationships that allow residents to work bravely with the police department in their community;
- Fully staffing every Problem Solving Officer position to work more closely with our residents;
- Deploying outreach workers, to help stop crime before it happens;

- Extending our CHP program with Governor Schwarzenegger;
- Fostering key partnerships with organizations, such as the O.K. (Our Kids) Mentorship Program, to provide outreach to Oakland's at-risk youth;
- Modifying patrol to enhance weekend and evening enforcement, which allows us to more efficiently fight crime and cut down on overtime.

National Night Out events will be held on Tuesday, August 4 between 7:00pm and 9:00pm and can happen everywhere, including apartment buildings, condominiums, townhouse complexes and in single-family neighborhoods. Many registered block parties will receive a visit from police officers, firefighters and other City staff. All registered block parties will have give-away items for kids and special gifts for party hosts. To register an event on-line visit [www.oaklandnet.com/nno2009.html](http://www.oaklandnet.com/nno2009.html) or call 510.238.3091.

For more information please contact Neighborhood Services Coordinator, Sandra Sanders-West at 510.238.6577.

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