



1 Fourth Street Chester, PA 19013

## PRESS RELEASE

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Mayor W. N. Butler, Jr. 610-447-7723

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### **MAYOR WENDELL N. BUTLER, JR. AND DELAWARE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY G. MICHAEL GREEN ANNOUNCE CONTINUED SUCCESS IN JOINT EFFORTS TO CLOSE PROBLEM BARS IN THE CITY**

#### *Crozier Pub Among Problem Bars Recently Closed*

CHESTER, Pennsylvania (October 3) – City of Chester Mayor Wendell N. Butler, Jr. was joined today by Delaware County District Attorney Michael Green to announce the latest success story in shuttering another problem bar that has served as the breeding ground for numerous acts of violent crime in the City. Crozier Pub is one of the latest problem bars to be closed as a result of a collaborative effort to rid the City of those trouble spots that have been a scourge on the community.

Standing in front of the former Crozier Pub, Mayor Butler stated, “For far too long, residents of this neighborhood have been held hostage by the shootings, drug dealings, and other violent acts that have been directly related to some of the ‘patrons’ of this facility. I am here to send a message that we will not tolerate this type of behavior which threatens the quality of life of our residents.” It is estimated that within the last couple of years, the Chester Police Department has responded to hundreds of service calls as a direct result of Crozier Pub. On that topic, Mayor Butler noted, “The men and women of the Chester Police Department have spent an inordinate amount of time and effort in dealing with the problems associated with this facility. Its closure means they can now focus their efforts and resources on other problem spots contributing to unwanted violence throughout the community.” Mayor Butler also thanked his colleagues on City Council for their ongoing support of this initiative, particularly noting the work of Councilwoman Marrea Walker-Smith and the anti-violence initiatives she has spearheaded.

District Attorney G. Michael Green added, “The closing of this establishment sends a clear message to tavern owners that the City of Chester, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, and the Office of the District Attorney will not tolerate nuisance bars in our communities. The Nuisance Bar Task Force will continue to aggressively pursue the closure of such establishments to ensure that the men, women, and children of Chester can live, work, and worship in a safe and wholesome environment.”

Crozier Pub is but one of many problem bars that have been closed as a result of the City’s efforts with its partners. The City was also successful in recently closing down the former Stanley’s Tavern on the 2200 hundred block of West Third Street. In addition, Eddie’s Café on Morton Avenue and Penn’s Wood at 7<sup>th</sup> and Welsh Streets closed their doors after City efforts resulted in significant fines and suspensions of the licenses for both establishments.

The process in closing down nuisance bars and having the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) deny a license renewal can be extremely lengthy, taking up to two years and significant police manpower and community involvement to accomplish the goal. Butler thanked the members of the Chester Police Department for their hard work and warned, “We want problem bars to know that we will close them down if they do not adhere to the responsibilities demanded of them not only by the PLCB, but the deserving public as well.”

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