

NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD July 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER - 3 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Terry Carter – Vice Chair	David Stille
Elena Giarratano	Daniel Price
John Quirk III – Chair	
Alonzo Thompson	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 16, 2025

SWEAR IN WITNESSES

Do you swear or affirm that the evidence you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

NEW COMPLAINTS

2025-004 1639 Norman Dr.	M
Phenestor Leopold	S
	Α
2025-005 815 N. Mass Ave.	M
815 N Mass Ave LLC	S
	Α

RECONSIDERATION - None

CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT

Nuisance Abatement Board May 21, 2025

The Nuisance Abatement Board met in the City Commission Chambers. Members Terry Carter (Vice Chair), Elena Giarratano, Daniel Price, and David Stille were present. John Quirk (Chair), and Alonzo Thompson were absent. Assistant City Attorney Alex Landback, Police General Counsel David Carmichael, and City Clerk Kelly Koos were present.

Approval of minutes - April 16, 2025

Action: Daniel Price moved to approve the minutes. David Stille seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Swear In Witnesses - None

Reconsideration

2025-001 4406 Horse Creek Ln.

David Carmichael explained the City of Lakeland reached a settlement agreement in this case. The Board had previously entered an order to close this property. The City received a request for reconsideration. The Board granted the motion for reconsideration. In the interim, the attorney filed an appeal in the court of appeals. The settlement agreement includes a 6-month period of probation and future violation would result in a 12-month closure and \$18,000 fine.

Recommendation: Mr. Carmichael recommended the Nuisance Abatement Board adopt the settlement agreement.

The Board discussed:

- The appeal. The appeal process would take approximately 9-months. The appeals go away if the settlement agreement is adopted. The City cannot act while the appeals are in motion.
- The settlement. Possible alternatives. Alternatives were subject to additional negotiation. The owners would be under probation for 6-months. Future violations would result in closure and fines. The owners waive their right to appeal during those 6 months. Future violations would be brought to the Board for closure.
- The goal is compliance. There has been no activity since the previous order.

Action: Daniel Price moved to approve the recommendation. Terry Carter seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned 3:36 p.m.



In re:

July 8, 2025

Complaint No. 2025-004

Address of Property: 1639 Norman Drive Lakeland, FL 33805

Legal Description of Property:
GOLDEN NORTHGATE UNIT 1 PB 48 PG 21 BLK A LOT 16SEC 2/11 T28 R23

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO:

Phenestor Leopold 1639 Norman Dr Lakeland FL 33805

Please be on notice that the City of Lakeland Nuisance Abatement Board will hold a hearing on the above-referenced property on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, Lakeland, Florida, located at 228 S. Massachusetts Ave.

Upon a finding the above-referenced property is a public nuisance, the Board has the power to order the closure of the place or premises or any part thereof, impose fines, order payment of reasonable costs, including attorneys' fees, and record orders of the board in public records, which orders shall become liens against the real property which is the subject of the order.

Anyone deciding to appeal a decision by the Nuisance Abatement Board on the above subject matter at this hearing will need a record of the proceedings and, for purposes of that appeal, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statute, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, or those requiring language assistance (free of charge) should contact the City of Lakeland ADA Specialist, Kristin Meador. Because providing a reasonable accommodation may require outside assistance, organizations, or resources, the City asks that any request be made with as much notice as possible, preferably 72 hours, but no later than 48 hours in advance of the event, at: (863) 834-8444, Email: ADASpecialist@lakelandgov.net. If hearing impaired, please contact the TDD numbers: Local – (863) 834-8333 or 1-(800) 955-8771 (TDD – Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) or the Florida Relay Service number: 1-(800) 955-8770 (VOICE), for assistance.

Dated this 8th day of July 2025.

CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD

Kelly S. Koos, MMC, City Clerk

NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA

COMPLAINT

CASE NO. 2025-40008

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER(S):

(1) Phenestor Leopold 1639 Norman Dr Lakeland, FL 33805

Address of Property: 1639 Norman Drive

Lakeland, FL 33805

Legal Description: GOLDEN NORTHGATE UNIT 1 PB 48 PG 21 BLK A LOT 16SEC 2/11 T28 R23

Violation of Florida Statute: 893.13

Complainant's Name: NLO Officer T. Cuello #205

DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATIONS:

STATE OF FLORIDA)

COUNTY OF POLK)

I, Officer Teddy Cuello, on the 10th day of May 2025, after being duly sworn, do hereby solemnly swear, certify, and depose that:

I am a Police Officer, assigned to the Special Operations Division as a Neighborhood Liaison Officer (NLO) Section of the Lakeland Police Department. My area of responsibility includes responding to neighborhood complaints of criminal activity throughout the city limits and taking proactive measures to resolve the criminal activity. I have over eight years of experience in law enforcement and have participated in several narcotics investigations.

The property has been owned by the above listed owner since March of 2000. The owner resides within the residence and has allowed his family to live therein. All official records identify this property as an owner-occupied residence.

Within the last several years the owner has allowed the residence to become a nuisance by allowing several criminal gang activities to occur. Several residents who reside at this location have been documented as a known gang member which has attracted several crimes to take place at and around the residence and has caused this location to be labeled as a gang hangout location.

On May 4th, 2025, at approximately 1448 hours, the Lakeland Police Department responded to the above listed address in reference to a victim being shot. The victim of the shooting was identified, JA (Juvenile), and was transported to Lakeland Regional Health to be treated for the gunshot wound. JA is also known to hang out with Christian Fennell, who is a documented gang member and resides at this location. (Case#: 2025-39676)

On November 12th, 2023, the Lakeland Police Department responded to a shooting incident that stemmed from the above listed address which involved a male being shot, along with several community members advising law enforcement of all their property being damaged resulting from the shooting. The incident began with a drive-by shooting that originated at 1639 Norman Drive and continued onto Robert King High Drive. Several males exited out of the suspect vehicle and began shooting on foot up to the intersection of Robert King High Drive and Providence Road. A total of 29 shell casings and bullet fragments were recovered from this scene. The suspects then fled to 1101 Jewel Avenue where several firearms and ammunition were recovered. (Case#: 2023-91101)

I was informed by Detective Rivers of several documented gang members residing at the residence. Detective Rivers has informed me that the documented gang members belong to the "1400 gang" which are involved in several shootings and other nefarious crimes throughout Lakeland. Detective Rivers also informed me that a firearm was recovered at 1639 Norman Drive. The firearm that was recovered was involved in the mass shooting which injured eleven (11) people that occurred on January 30th, 2023, at Iowa Avenue North and Plum Street, Lakeland FL. (Case#: 2023-7550)

A Lakeland Police Department TYLER query was conducted which revealed five (5) documented "1400" gang members who currently reside at 1639 Norman Drive.

The Lakeland Police Department has maintained a constant presence in the neighborhood and has used every resource available to deter the illegal activity. The property has clearly shown a pattern of illegal activity associated with a place or premises within the corporate limits of the city and serves to encourage future illegal activity on or about this premises. Such illegal activity is injurious to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the city, and corrupts the public morals.

I believe that 1639 Norman Drive should be abated pursuant to Article IV, Sec 38, Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, of the city of Lakeland. I respectfully request that the Nuisance Abatement Board find that 1639 Norman Drive constitutes a "public nuisance" as described in Section 38-86, of the City Code and FSS 893. Further, I request the Nuisance Abatement Board finds that the property owner has not abated this nuisance and orders closure of this property for a period of one (1) year.

The above and foregoing information in this affidavit is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Executed on the 20th day of May 2025.

Complainant (Officer) Teddy Cuello

STATE OF FLORIDA)

COUNTY OF POLK)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day before me, an officer duly qualified to take acknowledgments, personally appeared Officer Teddy Cuello, known to me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and who acknowledged before me that he executed same.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 20 day of _

JESSICA DIANE SMITH Notary Public Expires 3/7/2028

My Commission Expires: 3-7-2028

In Re: "Public Nuisance" Property 1639 Norman Dr., Lakeland, Florida 33805

AFFIDAVIT OF INVESTIGATION

STATE OF FLORIDA) COUNTY OF POLK)

- I, Derek Rivers, on this 25th day of June 2025, after being duly sworn, do hereby solemnly swear, certify and depose that:
 - I, Derek Rivers, am a police detective with the City of Lakeland Police Department (LPD). I have 6 years of experience as a law enforcement officer. I am currently assigned to the Intelligence/Gang Unit of the Lakeland Police Department. In this assignment, I am responsible for the enforcement of the Florida State Statutes and as such I have knowledge regarding gang activity.
 - 2. There is known to be individuals affiliated with gang members residing at or frequenting the property located at 1639 Norman Dr., Lakeland, FL 33805.
 - 3. I (Detective Rivers #238) am assigned to the Lakeland Police Department's Criminal Investigation Section/Intelligence and Gang Unit. My current duties include: conducting intelligence gathering through multiple sources of information, gang investigations, assisting in multiple different types of investigations throughout the Lakeland Police Department and other local, state, and federal entities, monitoring criminal trends, and identifying specific information relevant to ongoing criminal activity, and facilitate the integration of information with individuals, groups, organizations that engage, endeavor, or inspire unlawful activity.

I have attended/completed the Florida Basic Recruit Law Enforcement Academy 770-hour course; Crime Reduction: Enforcement and Prevention Strategies; Florida Gang Investigators Association (FGIA) Basic Gang Specialist Course; Florida Gang Investigator Association intermediate Specialist course and 56 hours of (FGIA) Gang Training Workshop; National Gang Center Street Gang Intelligence Training.

I have conducted multiple interviews with current documented criminal gang members, concerned citizens, anonymous citizens and confidential informants. I have established a good working knowledge of criminal gangs that operate within the city of Lakeland.

"1400" is a criminal gang made up of more than three criminal gang members. This criminal gang shares multiple common identifiers such as their name "1400". Their primary color red, and multiple unique hand signs, specific to the

1400 criminal street gang. The "1400" street gang considers themselves a "blood set", and also copies and imitates Blood gang hand signs, tattoos and other identifiers.

Members of the "1400" gang have been documented committing crimes together as early as 2019. Members of the "1400" gang have been observed using specific identifiers, slang, and names for their gang since 2019.

Through open investigative sources, in person contacts/interviews with "1400" gang members, opposing gang members, anonymous citizens and confidential informants. I have been able to identify the "1400" gang hand sings, territories, names for their territories, and sub-groups within the larger criminal gang.

The 1400 criminal gang; and its members have been involved in an extensive number of crimes investigated by the Lakeland Police Department. These crimes include: Narcotic Sales, Vehicle Burglary, Grand Thefts, Grand Thefts of Firearms, Grand Thefts of Vehicles, Aggravated batteries and Assaults, Shooting investigations, simple batteries and assaults, and Affrays both in public areas and within schools.

All the aforementioned gathered and observed information qualifies "1400" as a criminal gang; three or more subjects with a common name, hand signs and identifiers, which primary goal is to commit crimes for the furtherance of the gang and its members.

The residence of 1639 Norman Drive, Lakeland, Florida serves as a 1400 gang stronghold/territory. I myself, have made numerous narcotic arrests, wanted subject arrests, and weapons violations arrest from subject who were observed originating from or returning to the aforementioned residence. This location has been used to harbor wanted 1400 criminal gang members, and weapons that were stored for use of the gang members at this residence.

This residence is located directly behind the Lakewood Terrace Apartment Complex, which is a 1400 gang territory. Gang members utilize 1639 Norman Drive almost as a forwarding operating base to store materials and gather together before committing crimes throughout the city.

The aforementioned statements are supported by countless police reports and investigations stemming or ending at this location involving specifically; documented 1400 gang members.

I have made contact with adults at this residence who appear to knowingly aid and abed these gang members and are willingly facilitating or allowing members to use this residence to further enhance their criminal organization.

The following subjects reside at this residence, and meet more than two of the qualifications set forth by FSS 874 qualifying them as criminal gang members.

Shafee Wright, Maliqoun Wright, Jayvon Wright, Daniel Fennell, and Christian Fennell. These subject are all documented criminal gang members, and were documented by myself, Detective Derek Rivers.

The successful abatement of this property would immediately enhance the safety of the surrounding citizens and general public.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

DETECTIVE Derek Rivers #238

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF POLK

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day before me, an officer duly qualified to take acknowledgments, personally appeared Detective Derek Rivers, known to me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and who acknowledged before me that he executed same.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 25th day of June 2025.

JANNAH R. DAVIS
MY COMMISSION # HH 529833
EXPIRES: May 22, 2028

Notary Public, State of Florida

My Commission

Expires: May 22, 2028



In re:

July 8, 2025

Complaint No. 2025-005

Address of Property: 815 N Massachusetts Ave Lakeland, FL 33801

Legal Description of Property: (***DEED APPEARS IN ERROR***) SCHIPMANS SURVEY DB G PG 360 361 BLK 20 LOT 3 LESS S 15 FT & THAT PORTION OF SI/2 LOT 5 DESC AS BEG SW COR S 1/2 LOT 5 RUN N 38 FT E 75 FT S 10.94 FT E 60 FT S 26.67 FT W 135 FT TO POB

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO:

815 N Mass Ave LLC Title Manager: Odel Odeh 805 N Massachusetts Avenue

Lakeland, FL 33801

815 N Mass Ave LLC Title Manager: Raia Odeh 801 N Massachusetts Avenue Lakeland, FL 33801

Please be on notice that the City of Lakeland Nuisance Abatement Board will hold a hearing on the above-referenced property on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, Lakeland, Florida, located at 228 S. Massachusetts

Upon a finding the above-referenced property is a public nuisance, the Board has the power to order the closure of the place or premises or any part thereof, impose fines, order payment of reasonable costs, including attorneys' fees, and record orders of the board in public records, which orders shall become liens against the real property which is the subject of the order.

Anyone deciding to appeal a decision by the Nuisance Abatement Board on the above subject matter at this hearing will need a record of the proceedings and, for purposes of that appeal, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statute, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, or those requiring language assistance (free of charge) should contact the City of Lakeland ADA Specialist, Kristin Meador. Because providing a reasonable accommodation may require outside assistance, organizations, or resources, the City asks that any request be made with as much notice as possible, preferably 72 hours, but no later than 48 hours in advance of the event, at: (863) 834-8444, Email: ADASpecialist@lakelandgov.net. If hearing impaired, please contact the TDD numbers: Local – (863) 834-8333 or 1-(800) 955-8771 (TDD - Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) or the Florida Relay Service number: 1-(800) 955-8770 (VOICE), for assistance.

Dated this 8th day of July 2025.

CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD

elly S. Koos, MMC, City Clerk

NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA

COMPLAINT

CVCE	NO	2025-	
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NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER(S):

(1) 815 N MASS AVE LLC
Title Manager: Odel Odeh
805 N. Massachusetts Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801

(2) 815 N MASS AVE LLC
Title Manager: Raia Odeh
805 N. Massachusetts Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801

Address of Property: 815 N. Massachusetts Avenue

Lakeland, FL 33801

Legal Description: (***DEED APPEARS IN ERROR***) SCHIPMANS SURVEY DB G PG 360 361 BLK 20 LOT 3 LESS S 15 FT & THAT PORTION OF S1/2 LOT 5 DESC AS BEG SW COR S 1/2 LOT 5 RUN N 38 FT E 75 FT S 10.94 FT E 60 FT S 26.67 FT W 135 FT TO POB

Dates of Violations: Between September 8, 2024, and February 14, 2025

Violation of Florida Statute: 893.13

Complainant's Name: NLO Officer M. Hammersla #106

DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATIONS:

STATE OF FLORIDA)

COUNTY OF POLK)

I, Officer Michael Hammersla, on the 20th day of June 2025, after being duly sworn, do hereby solemnly swear, certify, and depose that:

I am a Police Officer assigned to the Special Operations Division, Neighborhood Liaison Section of the Lakeland Police Department. I have over thirty (30) years of experience in law enforcement and have participated in numerous narcotics investigations as well as nuisance investigations.

The forthcoming attached police reports will document the ongoing narcotics and nuisance activities at 815 N. Massachusetts Avenue, Lakeland Polk County, Florida.

Ownership of the property appears in the records of the Polk County Property Appraiser's Office as "815 N MASS AVE LLC" who acquired the property on November 19, 2012 in a Quit-Claim deed from the LLC's registered manager's Odel Odeh and Raia Odeh, who purchased the property originally on January 25th, 2000.

Since 2013, and according to the Lakeland Police Department databases, there have been over two thousand six hundred and sixty-one (2,661) police calls for service. In just the last year, between April 1st, 2024 and March 31st, 2025, there have been three hundred and twenty-three (323) calls for police service resulting in one hundred and thirteen (113) arrests. These arrests include dangerous drugs, robbery, armed trespass, and alcohol violations among others. No actions have been taken on the part of the owner that evidence any deterrence of the illegal activities on the property. The property has been a location of rampant drug cases as well as other felonies, misdemeanors, and general nuisance activities.

In the six (6) month period between September 8, 2024 to February 14, 2025, there were at least 11 arrests for illegal narcotics crimes at this location. The below listed cases, from this six (6) month period of time, show two (2) cases of narcotics sales, two (2) cases of possession with intent to sell narcotics, and numerous felony narcotics possession cases, all meeting the qualifying crimes for Nuisance Abatement of the property.

1. Case #2024-85116 on 9/8/2024 Officer Fermin #125

Officer witnessed a <u>hand-to-hand narcotics transaction</u> and was able to arrest the buyer. The buyer was in possession of crack cocaine and marijuana.

2. <u>Case #2024-89143-</u> on 09/20/2024 Officer Buttrey #315

Officer witnessed a <u>hand-to-hand narcotics transaction</u> from a vehicle in parking lot. Subject arrested for possession of crack cocaine. Seller later charged with sale of cocaine

3. Case #2024-89316- on 09/20/2024 Officer Vaughn #207

Officer observed a known subject that was prior trespassed from property. After arrest she was found in **possession of Methamphetamine**

4. Case #2024-93077- on 10/02/2024 Officer Stokes #237

Officer Stokes was dispatched to a robbery. During the course of the robbery call, the woman who was robbed was struck by the male defendant. Defendant fled to and was located at the store.

5. <u>Case #2024-107927</u> on 11/13/2024 Officer Stokes #237

Officer observed a subject who was previously trespassed loitering in front of the store. The defendant was in **possession of a trafficking amount of fentanyl.** Subject was charged with **sale**/delivery of narcotics.

6. Case #2024-109847 on 11/20/2024 Officer Fermin #125

Officer observed a subject who was loitering in front of the store with multiple small items in his hands, subject attempted to conceal items. Subject was arrested for **possession of methamphetamine**

7. Case #2024-118075- on 12/18/2024 Officer West #295

Officer observed subjects loitering in front of the store. One subject arrested for possession of cocaine

8. Case #2024-119062 on 12/21/2024 Officer Stokes #237

Officer responded to a call at the store and made an arrest for <u>Possession with Intent to Sell</u> Counterfeit Controlled Substance among other charges. The drugs in question were <u>methamphetamines</u>, some of which were pure, some cut with sugar and salt, and some complete fakes. The defendant admitted to selling and intending to continue to sell.

9. Case #2025-133- on 01/01/2025 Officer West #295

Officer observed a known suspect, known to have been previously trespassed, loitering in front of the business. Post-arrest for trespass, the suspect was found to be in **possession** of Methamphetamine

10. Case #2025-5416- on 01/18/2025 Officer Cruz #323

Officer responded to a disturbance call at the store. Suspect was detained after brief foot chase. Suspect threw several baggies into the air. When suspect arrested, the baggies were found to contain **cocaine**

11. Case #2025-13543- on 02/14/2025 Officer McGuirk #287

Officer observed a subject who was previously trespassed from the store. Upon arrest for trespass, the suspect was found to be in **possession of heroin**

Due to the twenty-five (25) year history of the property, particularly the last thirteen (13) years, it is evident that the property owner and/or tenants have refused to take effective actions to stop or deter the illegal activity occurring on their property. The store employees are often observed outside mingling with the people gathered there that are committing crimes, right in front of them, without any indication of attempting to deter these illegal actions or calling police. To the contrary, their presence outside seems to encourage the gatherings and illegal activity.

The property is frequented by convicted felons with histories of crimes for use and possession of illegal drugs and other miscellaneous and violent crimes. The property is used by the patrons as a place to gather, sell, use, and distribute illegal narcotics. These persons congregate daily at the property. Persons are coming to and from the property for the purpose of obtaining, selling, or using illegal narcotics.

On 05/14/2025, a warning letter was sent to the owner/s of the property to ensure that there was notification of what has been occurring on the property over just the last year, as a measure of what has been a continuous nuisance over the past thirteen (13) years. The letter was sent via certified mail with receipt returned as delivered on 05/17/2025. The letter requested a meeting with the owner/s to discuss steps moving forward. This was a good faith effort to work together with the owner/s to stop the illegal activity.

As of 05/29/2025, there was no response by the owner/s to the Lakeland Police Department, Ofc. Hammersla, or any other known city staff.

On 05/29/2025, Affiant sent another letter to the owner via certified mail. This letter again outlined the crimes occurring on the property and the intent to abate the property if the owner took no actions to deter the crime or respond to the letter. The return receipt advised the letter was received on 06/02/2025

On 06/02/2025, received a phone call from the co-owner, Raia Odeh. I advised that there was a need for intervention by the owner with the tenant to deter the criminal activity on the property. She advised the business owner only visits the business once a week and that they (owners of property) visit once a month. She stated that when they are there they do not see and are unaware of the crimes as described in the warning letters. We spoke about the problems, and she blamed the crimes as the fault of the Talbot House Ministries, homeless shelter, and a former employee, Robert Bellinger. Stated Bellinger called the police often and that is why the police were there so much. I requested Raia Odeh to call me back and advise what actions they were going to take. As of 06/19/2025 the owner had not reached back out with any updates.

ADDITIONAL NARCOTICS AND OTHER CASES SINCE DIVERSION ATTEMPT

06/02/25 TO 06/19/25:

- 1. Case #2025-49371 on 06/03/25 Police service call
- 2. Case #2025-50343 on 06/06/25 Suspicious person call
- 3. Case #2025-50395 on 06/06/25 Trespassing call
- 4. Case #2025-50393 on 06/06/25 Trespassing call
- 5. Case #2025-50565 on 6/7/2025 Officer Saltis #327

Officer witnessed a <u>hand-to-hand narcotics transaction</u> and was able to arrest the seller and buyer. The seller and buyer were in possession of Synthetic Cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

- 6. Case #2025-50770 on 06/08/25 Suspicious person call
- 7. Case #2025-51311 on 06/10/25 Shoplifting call
- 8. Case #2025-53354 on 06/16/25 Suspicious person call
- 9. Case #2025-53462 on 06/17/25 Trespassing call
- 10. Case #2025-54146 on 06/19/25 Trespassing arrest

The Lakeland Police Department has maintained a constant presence in the neighborhood and has used every resource available to deter the illegal activity, to include installing a live-feed PTZ pole camera overlooking the exterior of the store and surrounding areas at significant cost to the city. The property has clearly shown a pattern of illegal activity associated with a place or premises within the corporate limits of the city and serves to encourage future illegal activity on or about this premises. Such illegal activity is injurious to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the city, and corrupts the public morals. The property constitutes a public nuisance and may be abated in accordance with the law.

We believe that 815 North Massachusetts Avenue should be abated pursuant to Article IV, Sec 38, Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, of the city of Lakeland. I respectfully request that the Nuisance Abatement Board find that 815 North Massachusetts Avenue constitutes a "public nuisance" as described in Section 38-86, of the City Code and FSS 893.

The above and foregoing information in this affidavit is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Executed on the 20th day of June 2025.

Complainant (Officer) M. Hammersla Lakeland Police Department

STATE OF FLORIDA)

COUNTY OF POLK)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day before me, an officer duly qualified to take acknowledgments, personally appeared Officer Michael Hammersla, known to me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and who acknowledged before me that he executed same.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 20 day of June, 2025.

ESTHER OTT
MY COMMISSION # HH 604774
EXPIRES: February 21, 2029

Notary Public, State of Florida My Commission Expires: