



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**City of Duluth Police Department**

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**DATE: 08/13/2009**

**NATURE OF INCIDENT: Duluth Police go Undercover in Problem Areas**

**CASE NO.:**

**INCIDENT DATE :08/12/2009**

**INCIDENT TIME: 1500-2300**

**INCIDENT LOCATION: 100 Block of East First Street**

**SUBJECT: Duluth Police go Undercover in Problem Areas**

**BY: Public Information Officer Brad Wick**

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**Duluth Police go Undercover in Problem Areas**

Investigators from the Duluth Police Department Violent Crimes Unit, Sex Crimes and Neglect Unit, Neighborhood Impact Team, and Canal Park Officers, along with investigators from the Lake Superior Drug and Gang Task Force, participated in a plainclothes detail on Wednesday, August 12, 2009, from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Areas of focus included the 100 East 1st Street and the area around the Bedrock Bar and Curly's Bar. Many of the arrestees were currently on probation or parole (repeat offenders). Arrests were made and are as follows:

Vera Jean Williams, age 52: Solicitation of prostitution (originated in the 100 block of East 1st Street).

Marlo Jane Benjamin, age 35: Solicitation of Prostitution (originated in the 100 block of East 1st Street)

Galiton Aliston McNeal, age 46: 5th degree sale of a controlled substance, violation of parole (originated in the 100 block of East 1st Street). Is on parole.

Elem NMN Smith, age 45: 5th degree sale of a controlled substance (originated in the 100 block of East 1st Street)

Lee David Roy, age 24: violation of parole (originated in the 100 block of East 1st Street). Is on parole.

Valerie Denette Johnson, age 42: solicitation of prostitution (originated near Curly's Bar). Is on probation .

All of the individuals were lodged at the St. Louis County Jail.

Duluth Police Investigators plan on doing similar plain clothes details on a regular basis in problem areas around the city.