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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: September 23, 2024

**RE: MEMO REGARDING REQUEST FOR DATA ON CRIME IN VACANT
BUILDINGS FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2022-2023**

Council Member Scott Benson requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) provide a report regarding crime data in vacant buildings for calendar years 2022-2023. LPD contacted the Detroit Police Department (DPD) to acquire the requested data, and DPD produced a memo containing the requested information, which was addressed to Council President Sheffield and Council Member Benson. The memo is attached below.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Detroit Public Safety Headquarters
1301 Third Street, Suite 7S-751
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Phone 313•596•1800
Fax 313•596•6818

To: Council Member Scott Benson
Thru: City Council President Mary Sheffield
From: Chief James E. White, Detroit Police Department
Date: July 26, 2024
Re: **Request For Data On Crime In Vacant Buildings For Calendar Years 2022-2023**

Please find below responses to your questions sent on 7/10/2024, regarding incidents that occurred within vacant/abandoned buildings.

To address ongoing safety concerns in our community, I am requesting detailed data, via a collaborative report, from the Legislative Policy Division, Construction Department, and Detroit Police Department on the following incidents that occurred within vacant/abandoned buildings for the calendar years 2022 and 2023:

1. Number of murders

There were a total of 8 murders in vacant/abandoned houses during 2022 and 2023:

	2022	2023
Murder Victims	7	1

a. Identify victim's gender.

	2022	2023
Male Victims	3	0
Female Victims	4	1

b. Identify if victim was a minor.

	2022	2023
Minor Victims	0	0

2. Number of rapes

There were a total of 13 rapes in vacant/abandoned houses during 2022 and 2023.



**CITY OF DETROIT
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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a. Identify victim's gender.

	2022	2023
Male Victims	1	2
Female Victims	7	3

b. Identify if victim was a minor.

	2022	2023
Minor Victims	0	1

3. Number of dead bodies found

There were a total of 25 dead bodies found in vacant/abandoned houses during 2023. This information is unavailable for 2022, as the type of location was not tracked until 2023.

a. Identify victim's gender.

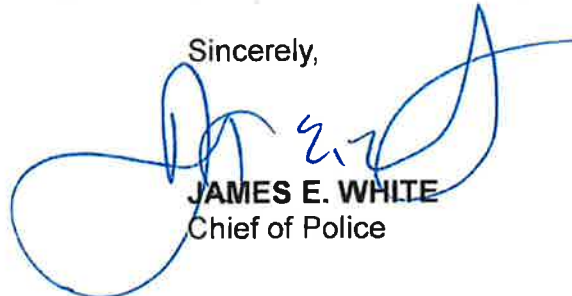
	2022	2023
Male Victims	N/A	20
Female Victims	N/A	4

b. Identify if victim was a minor.

Minor Victims	N/A	0
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Should you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Commander Michael Parish, Office of the Chief of Police, at (313) 596-1803, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. or by email at parishm796@detroitmi.gov.

Sincerely,



JAMES E. WHITE
Chief of Police

JEW/srl