

GUN CRIMES AND CROWD-BASED DISORDER NEAR RED ROOM LOUNGE -DISTRICT FOUR-

The Team:

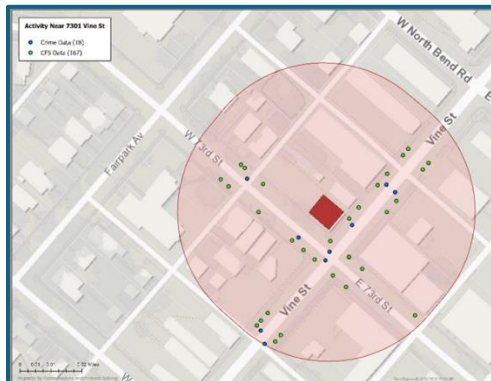
District Four Patrol, Neighborhood, Investigative,
and Violent Crimes Squad
CPD Vice Squad
CPD Civil Disturbance Response Team (CDRT)
Ohio Investigative Unit
City Law, Health, & Buildings and Inspections
Departments
Carthage Community Council

Scan:

In March of 2022, the Red Room Lounge opened at 7301 Vine Street, in the Carthage neighborhood. Shortly thereafter, District Four officers noticed increases in problem activities nearby and began to look more closely at the issue.

Analysis:

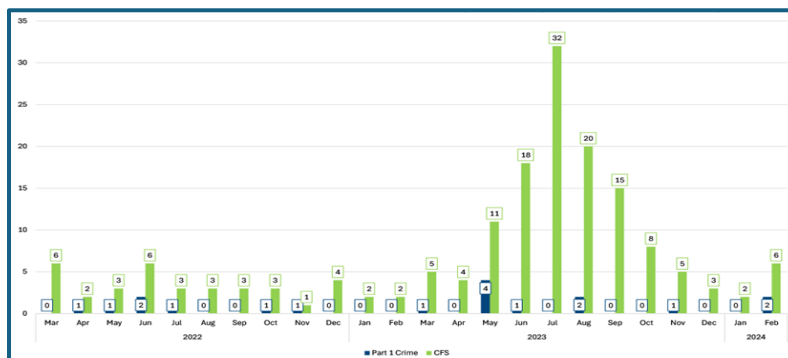
Over the next two years, calls for service in this area were monitored. Substantial increases were identified in the summer of 2023. Additionally, 1 shooting and four separate shots fired events occurred. Officers worked to manage large crowds, especially late at night between 0100-0500 in the morning.



Response:

- 1) District Four and CDRT officers increased staffing in the community, enhancing weekend visibility and crowd control capacity.
- 2) CPD's Vice Unit worked with the Ohio Investigative Unit, documenting numerous violations at the lounge, including:
 - a. Illegal private alcohol sales
 - b. Illegal sexually-oriented activities
 - c. Permit issues due to no active tobacco, food, or liquor licenses, and operation over occupancy
- 3) Code enforcement by several City departments
- 4) Execution of a search warrant at the premises
- 5) Public Nuisance case filed by the City
 - a. This resulted in a court monitored injunction and agreement (reached 2/22/2024)

As a result of this process, this business cannot sell liquor, store liquor, or have it on the property. Operating hours are limited to 6 a.m. through 10 p.m. Cincinnati police officers can enter at any



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District Four leadership continues to monitor activities here to ensure problem behavior does not return.

In June 2024, the Blu Room Café opened on the same property as previously operated Red Room Lounge. Blu Room Café operated as a restaurant during the day and hookah lounge at night. It does not have a permit to sell liquor.

After the responses had been active, there were only 3 violent incidents within 1 block of the Red Room property; one of which happened at a nearby gas station and the other two happening on the street nearby. None were associated with the Red Room property itself. Furthermore, a similar trend was seen among arrests. However, after re-opening as a hookah lounge other criminal behavior, like drug activity, began. There was only one arrest on the property after re-opening as Blu Room Café. CPD arrested a business owner who sold liquor (without a permit to do so) to an undercover officer.

Table 1. Unique Arrests occurring within 1 block of Red Room Property, January 1, 2022 – May 5, 2025

Year	Red Room Property	One Block around Red Room	Grand Total
2022	0	16	16
2023	3	10	13
2024	1	8	9
YTD 2025	0	3	3
Grand Total	4	37	41

