

DETROIT COPS: PROSTITUTION HOUSE SHUT - RAID UNCOVERED DRUGS, WEAPONS, GIRLS UNDER 18

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Thursday, April 3, 2008

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The oldest profession may have gone high-tech with Internet-based escort services, but three Detroit residents have been charged by the Wayne County Sheriff's Office with operating old school - running a **house of prostitution** on the city's west side with girls ranging in age from 15 to 17.

The three suspects, Deleia Skelton, 29, Michael Radcliff, 43, and Ramar Trusty, 22, were charged in 36th District Court on Tuesday with multiple felonies, including keeping a **house of prostitution**, delivery/manufacture of a controlled substance (marijuana) and one count of child sexually abusive activity for allegedly employing seven girls under 18.

All were being held Wednesday in the Wayne County Jail in lieu of \$100,000 cash bonds.

"We're glad we **shut** it down," Sheriff Warren Evans said Wednesday of a weekend raid at a home in the 13300 block of Hubbell, a block south of Schoolcraft.

About 50 people were at the home when sheriff's deputies and members of the Violent Crimes Task Force and the Southeast Michigan Crimes Against Children Task Force entered the home around 1:30 a.m. Saturday, Evans said.

Three 15- and 16-year-old girls were found with money in their thongs, dancing partially nude for 12 men in the basement. The girls reportedly admitted charging for "dances," Evans said.

Patrons were charged a \$10-\$15 cover, \$10 for a room and \$60 for various sex acts, he said. Alcohol was being served at two makeshift bars.

Evans identified Skelton as the madam, who made adult and juvenile dancers give her all their earnings in return for a small cut at the end of the night. She was also charged with accepting earnings from **prostitution**, a 20-year felony if convicted.

Radcliff lived in the home where the activity took place. Trusty was the doorman/bouncer for the operation, the sheriff said.

In addition, three women suspected of **prostitution** and six men were arrested and face charges. Thirty-one others were ticketed for being in a **house** where illegal activity was taking place.

During the raid, deputies also seized \$1,400 in cash, two guns, ecstasy pills and marijuana that appeared to be packaged for sale. Ten vehicles were also impounded.

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ILLUSTRATION: Photo

CAPTION: Detroiters Michael Radcliff, 43, from left, Deleia Skelton, 29, and Ramar Trusty, 22, were charged in 36th District Court on Tuesday with multiple felonies, including keeping a **house of prostitution** .

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Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS; NEWS

Page: 3B

Index Terms: drug crime; marijuana;sex crime; juvenile;Wayne County Sheriff's Office; raid; prostitution ; house

Record Number: dfp0000561637

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