

For Immediate Release April 10, 2013

Contact: Douglas Weiland Genesee County Land Bank 810.257.3088 ext. 521 dweiland@thelandbank.org

Genesee County Land Bank To Offer 30% Home Discount to all Public Health and Safety Workers and Active Duty Military and Veterans

Flint, MI —Genesee County Land Bank is offering a 30% discount to all police, fire, active duty or military veterans, and other public health and safety personnel. The discount would come as an incentive for public safety officers to live in Flint in the hopes that the presence of public service personnel would serve as additional protection in the Flint neighborhoods where the homes are located.

In an article recently written by Ron Fonger for The Flint Journal, the president of the Flint Police Officers Association, Officer Kevin Smith, supported the idea. The idea is actually similar to another national program called the Good Neighbor Next Door Program which provides incentives to police, fire, and others to live in "revitalization areas."

The newly renovated homes are part of the Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) program and range in price from \$350-\$450 per month which includes taxes and insurance. The homes also include all new appliances and security systems. Interested buyers must meet all NSP income and mortgage requirements and must reside in the home for at least five years.

"I am excited and hopeful that we are able to offer this discount to our public health and safety employees and military personnel," commented Deb Cherry, Genesee County Treasurer and Genesee County Land Bank Board of Directors Chairperson. "It is a win-win situation for our neighborhoods and the employees, providing good housing at an affordable rate and strengthening the neighborhoods by creating homeowners that are committed to the safety of our local governments."

The property addresses available for purchase in Flint are 6525 Dupont, 1008 Dupont, 2017 Barbara, 2210 Joliet, 2109 Barbara, 2448 Thomas, 406 N. Grand Traverse, 1602 N. Grand Traverse, 1646 N. Grand Traverse, 1659 N. Grand Traverse, 818 Lyon, 1941 Burr, 522 Mason, 434 First Ave, 2025 Howard, 1846 Barks, and 2026 Maybury. For photos and information about the homes, visit the Land Bank Facebook page at Facebook.com/GeneseeCountyLandBank or thelandbank.org.

About the Genesee County Land Bank's Neighborhood Stabilization Program

In March 2009, Genesee County was awarded \$10.7 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP2) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of the program is to stabilize neighborhoods through demolition and renovation of selected homes. To learn more about NSP or to see a current list of available properties, visit <u>www.thelandbank.org</u>.

###



452 S. Saginaw Street • Second Floor • Flint, MI 48502-1832 • Phone 810.257.3088 www.thelandbank.org • Fax 810.257.3090