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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City of Racine Declares Two Additional Nuisance Properties: Mitchell Wagon Factory Lofts and Arcade Apartments**

**RACINE, WI** — The City of Racine has formally declared two additional apartment complexes, the Mitchell Wagon Factory Lofts (815 8<sup>th</sup> Street) and the Arcade Apartments (413 Main Street), as nuisance properties, citing repeated building code violations and a significant volume of police calls.

Both properties are owned and managed by The Michaels Organization, a national housing operator headquartered in Camden, New Jersey. (*The Michaels Organization is not affiliated with the Wisconsin-based Michels Corporation.*) City officials say the ongoing building code violations and public safety issues at these Racine properties have reached a point where formal action is necessary to protect residents and the surrounding neighborhoods.

#### **Persistent Issues Prompt Enforcement**

Over the past 60 days, the City has recorded substantial activity at both complexes:

- **Mitchell Wagon Factory Lofts:** 33 police calls and 11 building code violations
- **Arcade Apartments:** 7 police calls and 45 building code violations

City departments attempted multiple interventions to resolve these issues, but the conditions have persisted.

“Residents should be able to trust that their homes are safe, secure, and properly maintained,” said Mayor Cory Mason. “When a property owner repeatedly fails to meet that basic responsibility, the City has no choice but to intervene.”

#### **Next Steps for Compliance**

With the nuisance declarations now in place, both properties must provide formal abatement plans to the City. These plans will outline specific corrective actions and timelines to address outstanding safety violations, reduce police-related incidents, and ensure the properties are managed responsibly going forward.

Mayor Mason emphasized that the City’s goal is to compel meaningful change, not simply document problems. “This action is about ensuring accountability,” he said. “We expect The Michaels Organization to correct these issues quickly and demonstrate a renewed commitment to the people who live in their buildings.”

If the property managers fail to meet the requirements laid out in the abatement plans, the City may pursue further enforcement actions, including municipal citations, cost recovery, or additional legal remedies permitted under Racine ordinances.

### **Commitment to Safe Housing**

These nuisance declarations are part of a broader effort to strengthen housing quality and hold property owners accountable. The City remains committed to working with responsible landlords while taking firm action against those who allow unsafe conditions to persist.

The nuisance declarations take effect immediately. Property managers have been notified and will be required to meet with City officials to begin the abatement process.

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*Racine, Wisconsin, is a thriving city located on Lake Michigan with a rich history and diverse population of about 78,000. Known for its historic downtown, award-winning architecture, top freshwater beach, strong community, and notable contributions to history and innovation, Racine is a wonderful place to live, work, and explore. From its progressive history as part of the Underground Railroad to its status as the Kringle Capital of America, there's always something new to discover in Racine.*