

Sample Neighborhood Impact Statement

SAMPLE

Date:

Honorable (Judge's name)
Circuit Court Judge
22nd Judicial Circuit
Saint Louis, Missouri 63103

Re: Defendant's name

Dear Judge _____:

I am a resident of (work in) _____ neighborhood. I have (lived) (worked) in _____ for _____ years. During that time, my fellow residents and I have seen the devastating impact that drug-dealing and drug deals have on our City neighborhoods. Our neighborhood, like so many City neighborhoods, suffers at the hands of people who sell and buy drugs. The vast majority of our neighborhood is full of honest, hard working, and responsible citizens. Yet, a few individuals like _____ who deal (buy) drugs, have made our neighborhood a place (where we fear for our children's safety) (where our customers are more and more reluctant to come).

I personally (witnessed or am aware of) drug dealers in our neighborhood. (Give example if you wish.) They bring with them foot traffic at all hours of the day and night. They bring with the constant fear of violence or danger. They bring with them car traffic that ignores the rules of the road creating traffic hazards. They bring with them graffiti, littering and loud noises and music – that directly impacts the quality of life and business in _____.

The defendant's crime occurred in my neighborhood. I appreciate the difficult decision you face. I ask that you consider the impact of drug dealing and buying on the _____ Neighborhood as one of many the factors you weigh when you assess the sentence against _____. Thank you for taking the time to review this letter.