



**MEDIA ALERT**

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**LOCAL PASTOR TO DESCEND TEMPORARILY FROM ROOF; CONDUCT 2 FUNERALS**

**On Day 44 & 45 Pastor Corey Brooks will descend temporarily from roof top vigil, perform two funerals**

**WHAT:** Funeral arrangements for **Jawan Ross** and **Deontae Malone**,

**WHEN:** **Thursday January 5 (Ross), & Friday January 6, 2011 (Malone)**

**10am Wake**

**11am Funeral**

**12noon Pastor and Family to address the media prior to burial**

**WHO:** Pastor Corey Brooks of New Beginnings Church, Family of Jawan Ross & of Deontae Malone

**WHERE:** New Beginnings Church, 6620 King Drive, Chicago

**WHY:** **Jawan Ross** a high school sophomore, was cut down in what should have been the very beginning of his life at the December 27, 2011 shooting of 7 people at **Church's Chicken (6600 S Halsted Steet)**. Mr. Ross is the one two victims that was killed that fateful night and is a prime example of why Pastor Corey Brooks has been conducting a roof top vigil for the past 44 days.

**Deontae Malone** was gunned down in the Marquette Park (**6500 S. Mozart**) area just one day later. His family was shocked by being touch by violence. By all accounts, Deontae was a quiet eighth grader who kept to himself and was greatly loved by his family.

The families recognize the exponential reach of violence "is crazy — it's got to stop" as Ross's aunt Latonya Ross so aptly stated. This is a fight that Pastor Corey Brooks understands all too well, much to his chagrin. In an ironic twist of fate, maybe not so much, Pastor Corey Brooks' stay on the roof of an abandoned motel was preceded by the funeral of another young child. "At my church is a funeral of a 17- year-old boy who was murdered in this neighborhood prompted me to action. I can't sit back and let another resident of this community endure any more suffering. " The roof top vigil, known as **Project HOOD** has been underway for **44 days**. Its aim is to raise \$450,000 in funds to purchase the abandoned motel (formerly known as the Super Motel) and use the land to build a community structure to be the epicenter for revitalization. With the understanding that curbing violence will take a multi-level socio-economic approach, Pastor Brooks strives to prevent other mothers from the agonizing pain of burying a child. So far his efforts have raised **\$215,000** towards their goal.

**Reporters, photographers and camera crews are welcome  
(inside Sanctuary & outside for address).**

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