OFFICE OF GOVERNOR PAT QUINN **NEWS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **CONTACTS:** Ashley Cross
Sunday, July 25, 2010

Governor Quinn Announces Community-Based Anti-Violence Commission

Panel Members Bring Personal Experience, Neighborhood Focus to Violence Prevention

CHICAGO – Governor Pat Quinn today named xx members to his newly formed Illinois Anti-Violence Commission, asking them to bring a grassroots, community-based perspective to the rising tide of deadly violence facing many Illinois communities.

Governor Quinn announced the new commission and its members Sunday during a news conference at SITE, in a community that has lost xx people to violence in the past 12 months. He was joined by xx members of the commission, including NAMES.

"When violence claims someone's life, the impact of that loss ripples throughout the entire community for years to come," Governor Quinn said. "Every member of this panel has lost a family member to violence, so they bring personal, real-life experience that can help to guide us toward wise, effective, neighborhood-focused anti-violence programs.

Governor Quinn said the Commission will hold hearings over the next few months, gathering testimony from community members and neighborhood groups as well as experts in violence prevention and law enforcement. The Commission will submit a report on its findings in mid-November.

"Violence is a community problem, and it needs a community solution," Governor Quinn said. "The members of the Illinois Anti-Violence Commission will help us improve Illinois' existing anti-violence programs and find new, workable solutions to save lives and rebuild neighborhoods."

All of the members of Governor Quinn's Illinois Anti-Violence Commission have lost family members to violence – some in the past few months, some many years ago. Their personal experiences with deadly violence and its aftermath will inform their findings as they seek information about the growing impact of violence in Illinois communities and develop new, grassroots ideas for violence prevention.

QUOTE FROM PANEL MEMBER HERE *Something about finding ways everyone can help to stop violence*

The members of the Illinois Anti-Violence Commission include…