

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Chad Enright** Chief Deputy

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Juneau Gentlemen's Club closes, bringing an end to Strip Clubs in Dodge County

For many years so so-called "Gentlemen's Clubs" in Dodge County have created opportunities for human trafficking, prostitution, drug overdoses, and even shootings, such as one that occurred at TNT Gentlemen's Club in the town of Lebanon before it closed. Law enforcement resources from the sheriff's office, along with many other local, state, and federal resources, have been expended investigating these crimes and aiding victims of these crimes, including victims who were brutally abused and used as part of sex trafficking operations. Subsequent to our search warrants and arrests, TNT in the town of Lebanon and the Hardware Store in the village of Clyman both closed.

This past Friday, it was reported to the sheriff's office that a local company has aided in closing the final Dodge County Gentlemen's Club. This club has gone by many names in recent years, but most recently, Elite Entertainment. This final closing is a result of the sale of the property on Friday. A sign was displayed on the building following the sale indicating that it was "Closed Forever". The new owner provided the following information to the sheriff's office, notifying us of this news for our community.

"On April 18, 2025 (Good Friday), a real estate holding company managed by Vine and Branch management purchased the strip club in Juneau for the purpose of shutting it down and turning it into a place of worship, healing, and counseling. This will include offices for Chris Jansen Ministries, whole life healing counseling, Vine and Branch management, and more."

While this certainly does not end opportunities for criminal operations of human trafficking and sex trafficking, this is a significant development and aids us in reducing the avenues for these criminal activities to take place. As Elite Entertainment closes, it is important to note that in the short time as Elite Entertainment, it was not free of allegations made to the sheriff's office of suspected criminal activity.

The public can be sure that while this development is a positive one for our community, the sheriff's office will continue to investigate human trafficking and sex trafficking that occur within Dodge County. Citizens can rest easy that these establishments no longer exist, but should still be aware that the activities still occur at

other locations. If you have information on trafficking occurring in Dodge County, please contact us so we can
investigate and hold the criminals responsible for their actions and rescue the victims of trafficking.
Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt.
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