



### Front - Title/Description

#### ***Detroit July 1967***

In July 1967 the civil unrest that had been spreading across the United States reached Detroit. In the early morning hours of July 23, Detroit police officers raided a blind pig, an illegal after-hours bar, where patrons were celebrating the return of Vietnam War servicemen. Located at Clairmount Avenue and Twelfth Street (later Rosa Parks Boulevard), the bar was within a mostly African-American business district that had an active nightlife. While the police arrested all eighty-five people inside, a crowd formed outside. Reacting to the arrests, a few people threw rocks and bottles at the police. By eight a.m., the crowd had grown to an estimated 3,000 people, and arson and looting were underway. Mayor Jerome Cavanagh and Governor George Romney agreed to deploy the Michigan National Guard that afternoon. Federal Army troops joined the guard thirty-six hours later.

#### **Significant Date:**

Post WWII (1945-1970)

**Registry Year:** 2017      **Erected Date:** 2017

### Marker Location

**Address:** 9125 Rosa Parks Boulevard

**City:** Detroit

**State:** MI      **ZipCode:** 48206

**County:** Wayne

**Township:**

**Lat:** 42.37663900 / **Long:** -83.09981800

**Web URL:**

### Back - Title/Description

#### ***Detroit July 1967***

The civil unrest in Detroit continued for four days, until July 27, 1967. More than 1,600 buildings were damaged after fires spread from the business district to nearby residences. Property damage was estimated to be \$132 million. About 7,200 people were arrested, and hundreds were injured. Forty-three people died. They included bystanders, looters, a policeman, two firemen and a National Guardsman. In response to the conflicts in Detroit and throughout the United States, President Lyndon B. Johnson created the Kerner Commission to investigate the causes of the violence. It concluded that although the specific episodes of violence were spontaneous, they were in response to poverty, segregation, racism, unemployment,