

THE INFORMER

IN PURSUIT

CRIME
STOPPERS
U.S.A



OCTOBER 2017

FROM THE CHAIRMAN...

I would like to thank all of you who were able to attend the Crime Stoppers USA Annual Training Conference in Honolulu this past month. We hope each of you took useful information back to your programs. The conference committee put together training that covered everything from the ABCs to very specific training for Crime Stoppers. Special thanks to everyone who assisted with the conference, including Conference Chairs Mike Blatman and Kim Buffett, for putting a wonderful conference together. We appreciate all the work Honolulu Crime Stoppers did to make the conference a success. Looking forward to seeing everyone in NOLA next September.

While speaking at the training conference I discussed the importance of maintaining current and accurate stats. To prove value most companies use stats; Crime Stoppers USA and our local programs are no different. Whether we are approaching our federal partners or a local company, we need to be able to provide concrete proof supporting our success. This is done thru stats. We are asking all programs to update their stats in the data base at least 2 times a year.

Crime Stoppers USA now has a closed Facebook page for members only. We would like to invite all member programs to join the closed page. Our goal is to provide networking even when we aren't at a conference. Feel free to ask questions or tell us about your successes. The more people involved in the conversations the more all of us learn. If you have any questions about joining the closed Facebook page, please contact Julie Lopez jlopez@crimestoppersusa.com.

We are looking for new articles for the newsletter, I would encourage all of you to send in successful fund-raising stories, community events or successful case stories. Crime Stoppers USA would also like to post information on upcoming state or regional Crime Stopper meetings, please share that information at 4info@crimestoppersusa.com.

Have a great fall, be safe

Sincerely,

Barb Bergin

Barb Bergin

bbergin@crimestoppersusa.com

Chair – Crime Stoppers USA

Award Presented to Chuck Curtis *Special Connection to Kansas City Crime Stoppers*



Former Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission member and Crime Stoppers supporter, Chuck Curtis, was given the Director's Award for "...recognition of selfless devotion, persistent service and significant contributions to Crime Stoppers." In

Kansas City, Chuck, as president of the Valentine Radford Advertising Agency, had his staff design posters for our former school program, the 816-4-SCHOOL Hotline. He also actively supported our events and worked hard in the community to create better awareness of not only Crime Stoppers but the Crime Commission as well. One year, he was in Florida on business when he saw a copy of a newspaper published by the local Crime Stoppers program. It featured wanted felons and gave the local tip number so readers could phone in tips if they knew the fugitive's location. He was so impressed with the idea that he returned to Kansas City, and out of his own pocket and with the donated help of his staff, began our Most Wanted newspaper. He even continued financing it after he moved to the Dallas, Texas area to be near family. He continued that until early 2009 when the production of the paper was taken over in the Crime Commission office. In Texas, he is involved with the local Crime Stoppers program and has used his experience to advise other programs in how to better publicize their missions. He is a well deserving recipient of this honor and we congratulate him.

Chuck Curtis, right, receives the Director's Award from Crime Stoppers USA President Barb Bergin at the 2017 Crime Stoppers USA Training Conference in Honolulu. Chuck, who now lives in Texas, was cited for his work on behalf of Crime Stoppers nationwide.

FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN...

Another successful CSUSA Training Conference is behind us. These Training Conferences don't come easy and the logistics of having the conference in Honolulu added to this year's adventure. I want to give a big thanks to the CSUSA Conference Committee that put in many hours to make the conference happen.

During the three days of training, 31 different sessions were available. Ranging from the ABC's of Crime Stoppers Sunday afternoon through the Wednesday morning sessions on the Good, Bad and Ugly of Social Media, there was something for everyone. Throw in great weather, a Luau Tuesday night, and speakers who were passionate about their topics, and it was a great opportunity for Crime Stoppers.

A special thanks to Crime Stoppers of Honolulu, Sgt. Kim Buffett and Officer Glenda Cabras of the Crime Stoppers Unit who put in countless hours before and during the conference. Mahalo just doesn't seem like enough. And for those that don't know, Sgt Buffett retired right after the conference, staying just so she could host this year.

If you missed this year's conference, mark your calendar for the 2018 CSUSA Training Conference, September 9-12 in New Orleans LA. As always, if you have topics and/or speakers you would like to see discussed at the next conference, let me know. Comments from the 2016 conference resulted in the addition of a Newcomers Meet and Greet on Sunday afternoon. We have already had several suggestions that we will be making for next year.

Upcoming Training

November 1st is the next on line training offered to current CSUSA Members. This session will be the second featuring CSUSA Legal Advisor Richard Carter discussing three topics followed by a Question and Answer session. Topics for this training include:

Do Crime Stoppers tips have to be given to a criminal defendant's attorney as exculpatory information pursuant to US Supreme Court's Brady decision?

- Do Crime Stoppers rewards need to be reported to the IRS through the use of a 1099-Misc Income form?
- How can an anonymous tip from a unknown person be used to obtain an arrest or search warrant?

There are two sessions to choose from on November 1st at 10:00 AM or at 1:30 PM PDT. To register just send me an e mail mblatman@crimestoppersusa.com Include your name and your Crime Stoppers program.

We will have one more on line training session this year. Again if you have topics you would like to discuss, let me know and we will put something together.

Mike Blatman
Vice Chair - Crime Stoppers USA
mblatman@crimestoppersusa.com

Great Return on Investment

Through the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission, you already get a 4:1 bang for your buck, because your dollars to KCMCC likewise support the work of its four signature programs including **Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline**. Now, with a renewed Neighborhood Assistance Program, 50% Missouri tax credits are available to contributors. You will be able to provide financial support to the Crime Commission for nearly 30% of the total amount of your donation after federal deductions.

Not a bad way for YOU to put your dollars to work for you while WE put your dollars to work for our community! How do you take advantage of this low-cost, high-impact investment opportunity? Simply make a new or increased donation to the Crime Commission during our current annual campaign which is now to February 28, 2018. Then provide a copy of your cancelled check once it has cleared your bank along with the one-page application to the Crime Commission that we provide you.

The Crime Commission will complete a single page of NAP paperwork and send it, along with your cancelled check copy, to the state for processing. The State of Missouri will then provide you, the donor, with a certificate equal to 50% of the amount of your gift good to claim over the next 5 years in your tax returns. Please note that eligible donors include businesses or individuals who: operate a sole proprietorship, operate a farm, have rental property, or have royalty income. Shareholders in an S Corporation, a partner in a Partnership, or a member of a Limited Liability Corporation are also eligible.



Financial Corner with
K. Scott Abrams, CPA, CGMA
The \$64 Million Donation Question

In My View...

Crime Stoppers USA advocates to local Crime Stoppers programs that best practice after receiving donations is to send a thank you letter to each and every donation received. While I was attending a tax accounting seminar recently, a December 2016 decision rendered by a Tax Court exemplifies the importance of providing 'contemporaneous written acknowledgment' for donations received by charitable organizations.

A taxpayer had donated a gift of \$64 million to a qualified charitable organization and claimed this deduction on their tax return. Since the deduction exceeded \$250, the Internal Revenue Service requires this contemporaneous written acknowledgment. The charitable organization provided an acknowledgment letter, however, the charity did not state whether the charity had provided any goods or services in exchange for the donation. The tax return was audited several years later and the \$64 million deduction was denied since the charity did not provide the statement in the acknowledgement letter that 'no goods or services were provided' in exchange for the donation. The taxpayer appealed to the Tax Court, which sided with the Internal Revenue Service with the deduction ultimately being denied.

The taxpayer in this case thought they had taken all of the appropriate steps in making a donation to a qualified charitable organization, but the charity did not fulfill their responsibilities. It is extremely important for any donation of \$250 or more, whether that donation be in the form of cash, investments or property, that an acknowledgment letter be sent to the donor stating that 'no goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation.'

However, the Internal Revenue Service also states that if goods and/or services were provided in the acquiring of any donations, the acknowledgment statement should be constructed in a way to identify the fair value of any goods or services provided. For example, many of our organizations conduct golf outings as a fundraising event. Many offer foursomes to the sponsor/donor for a certain amount of dollar level provided to the charity in sponsoring the golf outing. Therefore, the acknowledgment letter may contain something such as, 'Thank you for your donation of \$2,000 where you were provided one foursome to the outing with a fair value of \$400.' The donor/taxpayer is only able to take a deduction for the net value of the donation, in this case \$1600.

Again, the best practice and strategy in never having this happen to your organization is sending a simple acknowledgment letter for every donation and sponsorship that comes in to your local Crime Stoppers organization. In that way, you will never have to answer that \$64 million question!

**HAVE
PRICE**

**CRIME
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U * S * A**



Recruit your Non-Member friends.

<http://www.crimestoppersusa.org/programs/csusa-membership-renewal/>

NUMBERS DON'T LIE

Florida Panhandle Crime Stoppers numbers don't lie, but then they don't always tell the whole truth either. There are many ways of measuring our Crime Stoppers program successes. The number of cases cleared, suspects apprehended, property recovered, narcotics taken off the streets all are valid ways of showing what we accomplish. When seeking funding for any potential projects, we are asked to show our success. Crime Stoppers USA asks that we keep our program 'Stats' updated. It's important to all of us. But how do you "keep your stats?" Are single cases counted multiple ways? Is a fugitive arrested counted as an "arrest?" A cleared case? Or do you count it both ways? Having accurate stats for our program is important because it is our report card. Investigator Brian Miller of the Bay County Sheriffs Department is the key person in this effort. He is using a software program, P3, designed by Anderson Software, the industry-leading Tip Acquisition and Management software used by law enforcement agencies and Crime Stoppers programs around the world. CSUSA has launched an effort to create "Best Practices" on keeping Stats. Numbers may not lie, but they can sure be made to show one story or another.

SPANISH BROCHURE AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE!!!!

Ten Year Old Deadly Cold Case

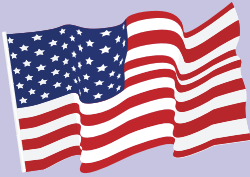
“This is a cold case and we recognize that it is difficult to get information on a case that occurred 10 years ago, but the \$10,000 reward shows we want to try again,” said Leslie Woods, president of the Fort Bend County Crime Stoppers. “To this day, we have family members who are still grieving due to this deadly incident.” Anyone who had information about this case was asked to make that anonymous call to the Crime Stoppers phone number so this family could have closure.

On Thursday, July 19, 2007, Fort Bend County, Texas Sheriff's Deputies were called to Ink Tones Tattoos, located on FM 1092 in the Stafford area concerning a shooting. Deputies found a deceased male victim lying on the floor in front of the door of the business. The man was identified as Richard Vargas. Several men were involved in the incident.

Witnesses said they saw three men enter the tattoo parlor and started shooting. One witness saw the suspects get into a red/maroon four-door passenger car and drive away on FM 1092. The suspect who shot and killed Vargas has been identified as Israel Angel Valdez, who is now 53 years old. Valdez is 6-feet, 5-inches tall and was last reported as weighing more than 300 pounds.

Valdez was arrested and charged in Fort Bend County for this murder. However, he posted bond in November of 2007 and fled in order to avoid prosecution. Valdez has previous ties to Houston and Alma, Michigan. He also has family ties to Mexico and has been known to work as a painter. “Israel Valdez is a dangerous man and he probably carries a weapon,” said Sheriff Troy Nehls. “He has been on our Top 10 Most Wanted list for 10 years. We need someone to step up and send us a tip that leads to his capture.

**CRIME
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2017 Crime Stoppers USA Awards Presentation

Coordinator of the Year

Presented to

Steven DuBois

Crime Stoppers of Central Indiana

Board Member of the Year

Presented to

Kathy Daniels

Crime Stoppers of Mesa County

Chairman's Award

Chuck Curtis

North Texas Crime Commission

Lifetime Achievement Award

Chris Cameron

Kent County Silent Observer

Best Community Initiative Award

Community Size 0 -250,000

Presented to

Crime Stoppers of Mesa County

For: Mav For A Day

Best Community Initiative Award

Community Size 250,001 – 1 Million

Presented to

Mississippi Coast Crime Stoppers

For: Student Produced Video Project

Best Community Initiative Award

Community Size 1 Million t

Presented to

Silent Witness

For: Turn In Phoenix's Serial Street Shooter Project

Best Print Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 1 Million t

Presented to

Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers Tips Hotline

Greater Kansas City Most Wanted

Best Print Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 1 Million t

Presented to

Silent Witness

Arizona Republic

Best Print Media

Crime of the Week

Community Size 250,001-1 Million

Presented to

Mohawk Valley Crime Stoppers

Sacandaga Direct Mail

Best Print Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 0 – 250,000

Presented to

Crime Stoppers of Mesa County

CWOA Outdoor Advertising

Best Radio Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 0-250,000

Presented to

Crime Stoppers of Reno County

Eagle Communications, KWBW Radio

Best Radio Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 250,001 – 1 Million

Presented to

Laredo Crime Stoppers, Inc.

and **La Raza 95.7**

Best Radio Media

Crime of the Week

Community Size 0-250,000

Presented to

St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office

101.1 FM KBON

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Annual Training
CONFERENCE
Honolulu, HI ★ Sept. 17-20, 2017

2017 Crime Stoppers USA Awards Presentation

Best Radio Media

Crime of the Week

Community Size 1 Million t

Presented to

Valley Crime Stoppers - Fresno

Cumulus Broadcast Group

Best Television Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 0-250,000

Presented to

East Mississippi Crime Stoppers

WTOK Newscenter 11

Best Television Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 250,001 – 1 Million

Presented to

Crime Stoppers of Flint & Genesee County

Fenton High School Advanced Video

Production Class

Best Television Media

Public Service Announcement

Community Size 1 Million t

Presented to

Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers

Tips Hotline

KSHB TV 41

Best Television Media

Crime of the Week

Community Size 0 – 250,000

Presented to

St. Landry Crime Stoppers

KATC TV/St. Landry Parish Office

Best Television Media

Crime of the Week

Community Size 1 Million t

Presented to

Valley Crime Stoppers - Fresno

KGPE – CBS 47

Retiring Board Members

James Taliaferro – Crime Stoppers of Shreveport/Caddo Parrish. CSUSA Board from 2006-2017

Rich Parrish – Crime Stoppers of Mesa County. CSUSA Board from 2012-2017

Kim Buffet – Honolulu Crime Stoppers. CSUSA Board from 2015-2017



TO ALL OF THE WINNERS

and

ALL OF THE CRIMESTOPPER PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE USA.

We Applaud You and the Work You Do!

Tip of the Month

TEN FELONY WARRANTS RESOLVED FROM ONE TIP

In June of this year, the Wichita Sedgwick County Crime Stoppers Program held a warrant project, targeting 15 offenders wanted by local, state, and federal law enforcement. One third of the subjects were arrested as a result of this project within the first two weeks. A tip came in regarding the whereabouts of one of the wanted subjects who had eluded authorities for several months. Detective Wendy Hummell sent the tip to the US Marshalls Task Force who followed up on the information immediately. **Geoffery L. Morris** was arrested for a parole violation along with 10 felony warrants that stemmed from a residential robbery in which the suspect fired shots. Several firearms were located along with another wanted felon. These arrests would not have been possible if it had not been for information provided through Crime Stoppers. The board approved a \$500.00 reward for this tip.

Grant For Purchase of New Phone System

Recently, the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission applied for a grant to the H & R Block Foundation to fund a new phone system for the offices. As a result, we were awarded a grant of \$26,000, for which we are very grateful. Our current phone and internet system is over eleven years old, antiquated, and often needs servicing. On numerous occasions the phone system has shut down. This is especially critical for the operation of our Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline. The current phone system was provided by ServiceMark Telecom, a local telecommunications company with whom we have enjoyed a very good relationship. This company has worked with us to develop plans for a new, more efficient modern system to meet our growing needs. Thanks to the grant, we will be able to equip each of our twenty-eight work stations with new phones, and enable us to have a new server which will be able to handle the call load more easily and with less maintenance. Our thanks go out to H&R Block and ServiceMark for their support of our important mission.

**Effective Immediately
New Permanent Mailing Address**

**Crime Stoppers USA
P.O. Box 64066 • Virginia Beach, VA 23467**

NEW SMALL COMMUNITY PROGRAM MAKES BIG SPLASH AT HONOLULU CONFERENCE

Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. is barely 3 years old in a county of less than 40,000 residents. John W. Nelson, the program's President and co-founder, presented a session at the conference: "Paydays, Pitfalls, and Problems of Creating and Operating a Crime Stoppers Program in Smaller Communities." Well-received and attended, many in attendance exchanged cards and discourse immediately after and during the remainder of the conference. Smaller programs face many overwhelming issues and challenges not dealt with by programs in larger communities and metropolitan areas. Nelson was also sworn in as Director of Region 11 and admitted to the CSUSA Board, despite being referred to as a "Technological Dinosaur" by one beloved leader and, according to one vendor, as a result, places the creator of the P3 communication system on equal footing with God.

The conference with renewed emphasis on assisting programs with increased educational programs is having a very positive effect. Post conference communications confirm that CSUSA is on the proper path to the future. In spite of 10 airplane flights in 9 days, including a 50 year law class reunion at Notre Dame, the time, energy and effort expended at the Training Conference was well worth it.

SIDEBAR with the Judge

by Judge Richard W. Carter, Retired
CSUSA Director of Legal Services



Desperate Measures in Desperate Times

Making the Changes to Your *Crime Stoppers* Structure & Operations to Further Protect the Identity of Persons Communicating Crime-solving Information

Crime Stoppers has evolved significantly since its inception in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1976. The technology of today was unimaginable back then. We have come a long way. Unfortunately, the criminals and their defense attorneys have also come a long way, while some prosecutors and government attorneys have not learned the finer legal points pertaining to the protection of Crime Stoppers tipsters.

In fairness to the prosecutors and government attorneys, it is not their job to represent Crime Stoppers organizations. However, one would think they would value the role of the informant in the criminal justice system. Yet there have been a growing number of cases in which prosecutors have been doing little to protect the identity of those who provide information to Crime Stoppers. Examples include:

- Prosecutors not filing motions to quash subpoenas for Crime Stoppers tip information
- Prosecutors allowing Crime Stoppers tip sheets to be given to criminal defense attorneys as a part of the prosecutor's "open file" policy
- Prosecutors inexplicably thinking tips to Crime Stoppers are somehow *exculpatory*, and causing them to be release to criminal defendants who are brought to trial due to the *inculpatory* (incriminating) evidence resulting from the corroborated tip
- Prosecutors failing to understand the fact Crime Stoppers is not a governmental entity, and treating tips to Crime Stoppers as public information which may or may not be subject to Open Records statutes and/or law enforcement exceptions to such statutes

WHAT Can Be Done To Reduce The Likelihood Of Such Threats To "Anonymity"?

1 Back to Basic

In recent months, it has been observed that some of the persons who are handling Crime Stoppers tips from informants have been doing an unacceptable job of performing the core tasks which are necessary for the preservation of a Crime Stoppers informant's **anonymity**. As a result, the integrity of the Crime Stoppers program has come under great scrutiny in several jurisdictions. All of this concern and alarm could have been avoided by simply adhering to guidelines and best practices that are taught at any and all Basic Crime Stoppers or Crime Stoppers 101 training sessions.

While the following list is not exhaustive, it is a good starting point when learning or reviewing the handling of Crime Stoppers tips in a proper manner:

- Neither ask for nor accept the name of the informant
- Do not enter into your information template or notes any information which identifies or could be used to identify the informant
- Do not disclose the gender/sex of the informant by using such terms as: He, She, Him, Her
- Do not burn the informant by including geographical references which are too specific (Example: The Crime Stoppers informant, who lives next door to the suspect)
- If necessary, review your initial notes and then "sanitize" them by revising and deleting any information which identifies or could be used to identify the person who communicated crime-solving information to Crime Stoppers.

2. Put More Distance Between The Non-Governmental *Crime Stoppers* And The Government



continued

It is much easier to successfully persuade a judge that your records belong to Crime Stoppers and not a law enforcement agency if you can ideally show a number of the following as facts:

- Crime Stoppers is operated by a non-profit charitable corporation—not by the government
 - The corporate board does not have directors or voting members who are active law enforcement officers, government officials, or paid government employees
 - Crime Stoppers has purchased and maintained its own computers, software, web based systems for managing tips within its anonymous cash reward program
- Crime Stoppers information systems should not be a part of a governmental system or accessible by the government systems users
 - Crime Stoppers corporate officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and law enforcement liaison should not use governmental email to communicate, thus avoiding the initial presumption the communication is available as public information
 - Crime Stoppers owns or leases or borrows its office space (Houston Crime Stoppers owns its entire building. One program uses a portion of a home kitchen).
 - Conduct Crime Stoppers board meetings at a private office, home, secluded portion of a restaurant, or any place other than a government building
 - Telephone lines used to receive Crime Stoppers tips should be owned and in the customer name of Crime Stoppers
 - Crime Stoppers call-takers should be paid staff, a private/commercial call center, or volunteers working for Crime Stoppers
 - File cabinets and storage containers should be owned and identified as the property of the Crime Stoppers corporation
 - Office supplies and equipment (pens, paper, copy machines, software programs and subscriptions) should be purchased with Crime Stoppers funds and owned by the charitable organization
 - Crime Stoppers charitable dollars should not be donated to law enforcement agencies or governmental entities, nor should such donations or expenditures be demanded or expected
 - An agreement or *Memorandum of Understanding* should be executed by the Crime Stoppers organization and any governmental or law enforcement agencies having a participatory relationship with the organization, so the relationship and responsibilities are articulated. It is imperative to describe and explain any government or law enforcement employees who may be assigned to liaison with Crime Stoppers as identify their role as agents of Crime Stoppers while in such capacity
1. Other Ways to Enhance the Protection of Crime Stoppers Tipsters and Tips
- If at all possible, use the very best tip management tools such as P3 by *Anderson Software*. P3 uses cutting edge technology to scrub and protect information and has the most experienced advisors who are familiar with Crime Stoppers operations and have decades of experience, not just years, months or days.
 - As a long-time friend of mine once said, sometimes you just have to “Drop the bomb, and live in the ashes”. In the worst case scenario, i.e. when you do not feel secure because tip information forwarded to criminal investigators is being placed into or commingled with law enforcement files, handed over to prosecutors, and shared by prosecutors with criminal defense attorneys, it is time to fall back on a variation of *Oc'cam's Razor*: The principle in philosophy and science that assumptions introduced to explain a thing must not be multiplied beyond necessity, and hence the simplest of several hypotheses is always the best in accounting for unexplained facts. Crime Stoppers could simply not forward its tip sheets as whole fabric but instead forward the core information (sanitized) in an unrecorded phone call or conversation with a law enforcement recipient who makes his/her own notes which possessed and owned by the law enforcement agency.

Conclusion:

Desperate times require desperate measures. It cannot be assumed Crime Stoppers will continue to operate under the same static procedures into perpetuity. Crime Stoppers must be dynamic and innovative....even if it means reverting to some of the basics. When it rains, a pencil works better than an ink pen.



Press Release
09/12/2017

To: Michiana Media Outlets
From: Detective Kayla Miller, Michiana Crime Stoppers Coordinator
(574)235-9306

Michiana Crime Stoppers is proud to announce that our program has reached an achievement and milestone that not many Crime Stoppers programs across the country have done – as of August 31, 2017 Michiana Crime Stoppers has approved our **\$1,000,000** in rewards paid out to tipsters!

Michiana Crime Stoppers works as a liaison between local law enforcement agencies, media outlets, and the public; working together in solving felony cases and the arrests of felony fugitives. Michiana Crime Stoppers began as South Bend Area Crime Stoppers in March of 1983 and in 2010 changed the name to Michiana Crime Stoppers, Inc. to better incorporate the full scope of our coverage area. Michiana Crime Stoppers encompasses twelve counties throughout northwest Indiana and southwest Michigan.

Michiana Crime Stoppers is a non-profit organization that is responsible for raising the funds used to pay out tips leading to the arrest of felony fugitives and/or cases being solved/leading to the arrest of felony offenders. Since 1983, Michiana Crime Stoppers has aided law enforcement with the solving of **9,401** cases, total narcotics and stolen property recovered valuing **\$17,459,702**, total arrests of **7,667**, and authorized rewards of **\$1,000,485**. Michiana Crime Stoppers has received more than **34,057** tips since the program began. The average number of tips received per month in 2017 has been **175** new tips.

Michiana Crime Stoppers is overseen by a civilian Board of Directors, whose primary role is the oversight of finances and raising funds for the program to continue to be successful and pay rewards. Michiana Crime Stoppers Board of Directors members work diligently to be an advocate for the program and promote a safe community for everyone; incorporating community outreach projects throughout the year on top of the fundraising events.

On behalf of Michiana Crime Stoppers, we would like to thank the law enforcement agencies that utilize our program and allow us to assist them. We would also like to thank our media partners for the continued support and media coverage so that we can continue to be a voice the public hears. And, last but not least, we would like to thank the public for their continued support financially and for being the eyes and ears of our community. It's because of people willing to share anonymous tips with us that we have been able to reach this milestone.

Remember – It's Our Community, It's Your Call



National Award Recognition for KC Crime Stoppers and Local Media Partners

KANSAS CITY, MO --- The Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline was recognized at the Crime Stoppers USA Annual Training Conference held in Honolulu, Hawaii. Crime Stoppers USA presented a total of sixteen 2017 awards for the best media efforts among the 329 members of the organization.

The success of the program continues to be the partnership between the public who provide anonymous TIPS, law enforcement who investigate the TIPS and the media who serve to promote the Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline contact information and encourage the public to report their information.

“We are gratified for the trust the public puts in us to handle their tips and to the support of our local media in publicizing our contact information,” said program coordinator KCPD Det. Kevin Boehm. “We are also happy with the success of our Crime Stoppers Most Wanted newspaper which has helped lead to the arrest of over 525 wanted felons.”

The awards were handed out to programs and individuals and the Greater KC Crime Stoppers program was honored with two media related awards. These awards are in categories that place KC in competition with programs from all over the nation.

Our own “Kansas City's Most Wanted” newspaper won in the Best Print Media Public Service Announcement category for its references to our hotline and how to supply tips. Crime Stoppers and KSHB TV-41 won for Best TV Media Public Service Announcement for its work in informing the public about our program and our new, free mobile app.

“We are very proud of these awards and the work and support that they represent in furthering the mission of our program,” Boehm said.



Media awards were presented to our Crime Stoppers Most Wanted newspaper and to KSHB-TV 41 in the Public Service Announcement category.

Crime Stoppers USA Awards First-Place Award to Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers

Print Award *Public Service Announcement*

Community Size: 1 million + Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers Kansas City, Missouri

Television Media Award *Television Public Service Announcement*

Community Size: 1 million + Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers Kansas City, Missouri

About Crime Stoppers USA

Crime Stoppers USA is a national association with a membership of 329 local Crime Stoppers organizations. Local Crime Stoppers programs are non-profit organizations led by citizens who volunteer their time. Crime Stoppers programs offer cash rewards to tipsters who provide anonymous information that lead to a felony arrests. Crime Stoppers USA provides training, legal advice and the exchange of ideas between individual Crime Stoppers groups.

ONLY NATURE COULD “ECLIPSE” SUCCESS

On Monday, August 21st, the Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers program was all set to hold its annual Crime Stoppers Golf Classic at the Oakwood Country Club in south Kansas City. But, shortly before play was to begin, a torrent of rain began to fall. Start of play was held up but it was soon obvious it would be impossible to proceed with the amount of rainfall on the course. However, there turned out to be a bright side (no pun intended – maybe irony instead) as that day was also the much anticipated “Eclipse Day” with a rare total eclipse of the sun due early that afternoon. All players had been given eclipse glasses as part of their tee package so most were able to go meet friends or family to observe the event. The tournament was rescheduled to Wednesday, September 13th, which turned out to be a beautiful day. Very few people, including just two full teams, were unable to return to play that day. Thanks to presenting sponsor American Century Investments and our other major sponsors including QuikTrip and Jazz Louisiana Kitchens, along with all our volunteers for making this another successful fundraiser. Although final figures were not available at this writing, Crime Commission Special Events Director Kendra Meeker, said, “We fully expect it to exceed last year's amount by a substantial margin.”

Miss All The Fun In Hawaii or Just
Want to Relive All of the Fun?



visit crimestoppersusa.org to recap the photo memories