



June 2012

Chair Report



**Okay, so for those located further south,
this is no big deal...but this is WISCONSIN!**

K. Scott Abrams, CPA, FHFMA
Chairperson
Crime Stoppers USA

I. Ongoing Operational Issues

A. Program and External Contacts.

- a. Blackwell Police Department. Sgt. Gary Preuss is interested in establishing a Crime Stoppers program and becoming a member in Crime Stoppers USA. Interested if there were any startup reward funds. Forwarded to Regional Director for follow-up.
- b. Westfield State University. Interested in establishing eight Crime Stoppers program on campus. Forwarded to Regional Director for follow-up.
- c. Neil Olonoff, Springfield, VA. requested information regarding Crime Stoppers as he is writing eight crime novel and wanted to better understand the process in receiving anonymous tips and paying out rewards.
- d. Green Lake County Crime Stoppers, Wisconsin. Received a request for information regarding compliance with regards to participating or supporting local political candidates.
- e. Hays County Crime Stoppers, Texas. Encounter difficulties in accessing the Members Only area of the CSUSA website.
- f. St. Mary's County Crime Stoppers. Responded to numerous questions about membership in Crime Stoppers USA. John Broad assisted with responding to some of these questions.
- g. Cleveland-Bolivar County Crime Stoppers. MS. Contacted CSUSA after discovering dues had not yet been paid.

B. Crime Stoppers USA Insurance Program. Summary: Crime Stoppers USA terminated its working relationship with Legacy Connections in May 2011. All references to Crime Stoppers USA were to be removed from the Legacy Connections website by June 20, 2011. **Update:** CSUSA was recently informed that the Texas Department of Insurance is seeking to revoke Russ Handley's insurance license after he refused to voluntarily surrender his license. Apparently Russ Handley has been avoiding the insurance investigator which has delayed filing of any charges against him up to this point. It is still expected that criminal charges will be filed and the information will be turned over to the Tarrant County district attorney for his disposition.

C. CrimePush Security. CSUSA was contacted by a website inquiry whether we wanted to participate in a smart phone application to receiving crime tips. Initial review with Kevin Anderson indicates that they are not necessarily a friend of Crime Stoppers and have been pushing this application with local police departments up to this point. It is also not clear whether this information is provided anonymously with the appropriate controls in place. Additional follow-up is being conducted and will report further at a future meeting.

D. Website Inquiries. CSUSA has been receiving and it ordinate amount of website inquiries that have related to individual citizens providing information about crimes and criminals, even though this is not an anonymous tip submission area. We have strengthened the language at both the beginning and the end of this inquiry area indicating this communication is primarily for Crime Stoppers USA members and membership activities. There has been a slight decrease in the amount of tip information inquiries received recently.

E. DataDot. Crime Stoppers USA has not seen much benefit in participating in the agreement with DataDot since the inception several years ago. As we discussed previously, we were looking to disengage ourselves on this agreement

altogether. However, a new management team has taken on the United States operations and has asked us to participate in a face-to-face meeting at their US corporate headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina, at DataDot expense. K. Scott Abrams, John Lamb and Chris Cameron will be meeting with these representatives on August 15-16, 2012 and will report back to the board on these deliberations. We are looking at a different approach in that a sponsorship or fixed-rate licensing fee be received in advance of each year of the agreement. We have received some advice and counsel from the Crime Stoppers of Australia which were initially involved with DataDot.

- F. **Crime Stoppers International Development Opportunity. Summary.** CSI is exploring a development opportunity on an international basis with the Shred It Corporation. Many local programs enjoy the support of Shred It at the present time, but this would expand this current relationship by offering promotional and financial support to community events. There might also be some financial support to Crime Stoppers USA on a licensing basis. More information will be available after the Crime Stoppers International board meeting in Jamaica, so stay tuned for additional information. **Update.** There have been some delays with receiving confirmation whether Shred It will be continuing in this relationship. Much of the energy and synergy surrounding this resource development opportunity diminished after Gary Murphy, Immediate Past President of CSI, passed away. It appears that I will have to take a much more active role in contacting Shred It personally in order to advance this opportunity for the Crime Stoppers USA. I hope to provide a further update in the near future. **At the present time, please keep this information confidential. No additional update at this time.**

II. Upcoming Events.

- A. **DataDot Meeting with senior management and CSUSA.** August 15-16, 2012.
- B. **Crime Stoppers International Leadership Institute.** October 2-4, 2012.
- C. **Crime Stoppers USA Annual Meeting.** October 2, 2012 (Tentative).
- D. **Central Ohio Crime Stoppers Annual Meeting.** October 17, 2012.

III. Executive Committee – Monday, June 11, 2012.

- A. Strategic Plan.
 - a. The Executive Committee identified measurable objectives with respect to the strategic plan points B.1., C.1., C.3., D.2., and D.1.
- B. Telecommunications/informatics Survey.
 - a. Elaine Cloyd and Bob Mooney will prepare a summary of the observations provided in the recently completed survey. Should be available by July.
- C. CSI conference.
 - a. The Executive Committee received a brief update on the planning aspects of the upcoming CSI conference hosted by CSUSA.