

CRIME STOPPERS USA

38 YEARS OF FIGHTING CRIME

Annual Report 2013



38 YEARS OF CRIME STOPPERS

... without revealing your identity

CRIME STOPPERS
800-222-TIPS

Call anonymously with information about crime

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Region 7

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Open

Region 9

Lisa Pisciotta

Region 10

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Region 11

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Region 12

Open

Region 13

Nguyet Do

Region 14

Michael Blatman

Chairman's Message



John D. Lamb
Chairman

Crime Stoppers USA has come a long way in the last 38 years. From our beginning in 1975 to now, service to our member programs has steadily been improving. Crime Stoppers USA is organized different than in any other country with a Crime Stoppers program. Crime Stoppers of the United States was the first and our organization started from the bottom up, instead from the top down. This in itself presents challenges that programs in other countries do not face. Over the years we have seen our membership numbers go up and down and this usually seems to follow the economy. This year we have seen a dramatic increase in information requests to start Crime Stoppers organizations across the United States and this has been averaging two to three per day.

Crime Stoppers USA has been focused on providing value to our local programs. Over the past year the board of Crime Stoppers USA has been active working to protect programs from outside political influences, local, state and national, and informing program of outside threats to their programs from corporate entities attempting to push out local Crime Stoppers programs within their schools and communities. Crime Stoppers USA has been active in assisting programs in gathering tips from the public through our 800-222-TIPS number which was utilized in cases in the national spotlight in California, Texas, Louisiana and Massachusetts. Crime Stoppers USA has sought to use technology, innovation and every tool within our means to engage an increasingly diverse audience who all take in information and communicate in very different ways. Our organization has increased its reach to our member programs and the public through the increasing the use of Twitter and Facebook as well as email. We have also, as you are aware, updated our web presence and are increasing the number of education programs to assist member programs in running their programs in a more efficient manner.

Over the past year Crime Stoppers USA has developed and improved relationships with law enforcement on a national level. These include the US Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriffs Association. We are participating in their conferences and meeting with them in Washington DC. We are getting the word out about Crime Stoppers nationally which adds value to local programs.

At this 38 year point, the value, both in safer communities and economical, as a national organization, to law enforcement and society where low cost, low risk actionable intelligence is making an increasingly important contribution to the prevention and detection of crime. Crime Stoppers information has saved many lives across our country and has also stopped many school shootings from happening.

Each member program in the United States is a valuable asset to their community and should be seen as such. These successes are built by a collective effort of Crime Stoppers, Law Enforcement and the Press who all share our determination to engage people in the fight against crime.

Making a Difference

K. Scott Abrams, CPA, CGMA, FHFMA

Immediate Past Chairman - Crime Stoppers USA



When I started in Crime Stoppers back in 1982 during the formation of the Greater Peoria Area Crime Stoppers, my decision was primarily influenced as an expectation by my employer to participate in a community volunteer organization. However, within a short period of time, I realized what Crime Stoppers offers and does which was making a significant difference in my community.

I am reminded about a story I heard from futurist Joel Barker that goes something like this. A distinguished author was walking along the beach one morning when he saw a young man moving about as if he was dancing along the seascape. As the author walked closer, he realized the young man was reaching down into the sand, picking up an object and throwing it into the sea. The young man repeated this process over and over. The author then walked over to the young man and asked him what he was doing. The young man replied, "I am putting the starfish back into the sea before they die." Whereupon the author observed, "Look at the thousands of starfish along the beach. Certainly you can't make an impact to these thousands of starfish." The young man looked at him, reached down and picked up another starfish and flung it into the sea. "It certainly made a difference to that one," the young man said. The author thought for a few minutes of the meaning behind these words. No other words were spoken that morning, but the two of them spent the remainder of the morning throwing the starfish back into the sea, one by one, making a difference.

You see, although I was at first encouraged to participate in any community activity in order to meet the expectation of my employer, I soon realized a significant impact that Crime Stoppers had in our community. The number of cases solved; the amount of drugs seized and stolen property recovered; and the rewards paid out in solving crimes! And, this can be seen across the United States, as is readily pointed out in the Crime Stoppers statistics included in this annual report. These are truly amazing statistics which points out that Crime Stoppers is Making a Difference! For all the volunteers participating in Crime Stoppers, fulfilling a community service in working towards a common goal in working for a safer community has made a difference for everyone!

Crime Stoppers is making a difference, one by one, but it all starts with our community volunteers and supporters. Join us and continue making a difference through your support and leadership in Crime Stoppers.

Where it all began!

Crime Stoppers began in Albuquerque, New Mexico in July 1975, which saw the fatal shooting of Michael Carmen while he was working one night at a local filling station. After two weeks the police had no information about the murder. Out of desperation, Detective Greg MacAleese approached the local television station requesting a reconstruction of the crime. The re-enactment offered \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of the killers.

Within 72 hours, a person called in identifying a car leaving the scene at high speed and he had noted its registration. The person calling said that he did not want to get involved so he had not called earlier. Detective MacAleese then realized that fear and apathy were

**CRIME
STOPPERS
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primary reasons that people were not sharing information about crimes. MacAleese helped design a system where the public could anonymously provide details of the events. It focused on stimulating community involvement and participation, taking advantage of every possible media opportunity, especially electronic media, to publicize unsolved crimes; and offering cash rewards for information leading to an arrest and/or conviction.

Since its first chapter was officially formed in Albuquerque in 1976, Crime Stoppers USA has been responsible for more than half a million arrests and more than \$4 billion in recovered property and drugs.

Until recently, Crime Stoppers USA was a member of Crime Stoppers International. In October 2012, a vote was taken to separate from this organization.

On the 19th of March 2013 an agreement was signed forming the International Association of Crime Stoppers between Crime Stoppers of the United States of America and Crime Stoppers of the United Kingdom. This organization will seek to spread Crime Stoppers into other nations while keep the principals



CSUSA Legal Report

By

Judge Richard W. Carter (Ret.)

Director of Legal Services



The period of time between the 2012 Annual Training Conference of Crime Stoppers of the United States of America, Inc. (“CSUSA”) and the 2013 Annual Training Conference was typical. The events that transpired during such time period, from a legal perspective, were not.

Of course, there were the usual requests for assistance in protecting Crime Stoppers records from unwanted demands---both informal and by subpoena--- by criminal defense attorneys for information and records of Crime Stoppers which might compromise the program or lead to the involuntary disclosure of the identity of a Crime Stoppers tipster. And, there were various forms, templates, articles, and advice provided to CSUSA member programs.

Breakthrough in Legislation for California Crime Stoppers

Assembly Bill No. 1250 was enacted by the California Legislature and signed by the Governor. This was a significant piece of legislation because it provided a statutory *privilege* for communications to “crime stoppers” organizations and their volunteers who receive crime-solving information. The legislation gives a legal definition to a crime stoppers organization in California.

It is now believed that other States which do not have Crime Stoppers legislation of any kind, can use the California experience as motivation to seek similar legislation in their jurisdiction.

Technology and Portability in the World of Crime Tips

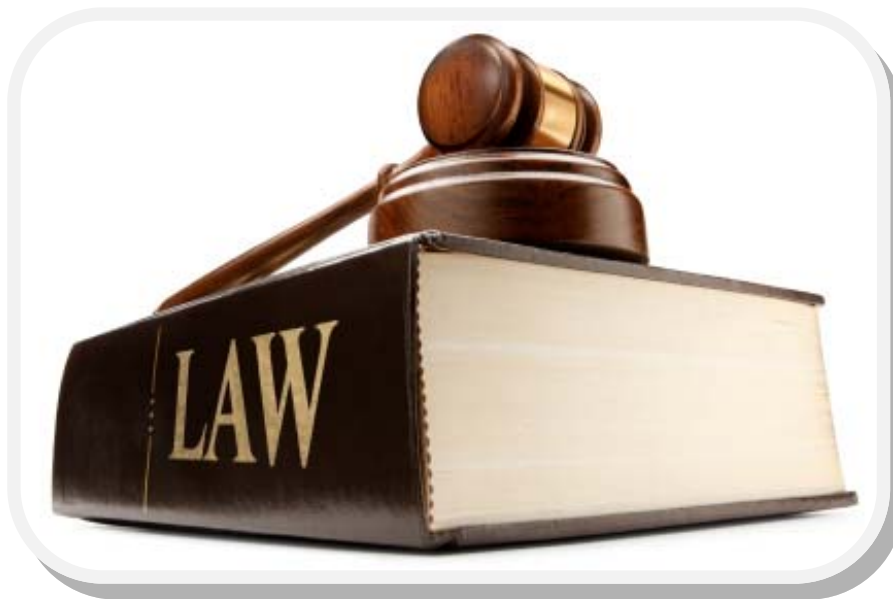
While perhaps not looked upon as a “legal” concern, the past year has seen a sharp rise in the number of threats to the continued existence of the “Crime Stoppers” program as we know it. A considerable number of law enforcement agencies have decided to fight crime without the assistance of the good citizens who volunteer their services through Crime Stoppers, and to merely obtain web based or software programs to collect and disseminate crime-solving tips. The opportunity seen by for-profit businesses to step-in and capitalize has made an impact upon our Crime Stoppers programs. Some of the for-profit efforts have been successfully thwarted, others have not been.

Conclusion

Crime Stoppers cannot be complacent and static. It must remain dynamic, vigilant, and relevant. While a few individuals have engaged in criminal activity, all others are simply the greatest asset of the Crime Stoppers organizations. It is the PEOPLE in Crime Stoppers who make the difference between a community-based program of citizens, law enforcement, and the media which set it apart from the for-profit packages which do not involve citizens supporting and working with law enforcement.

Your Director of Legal Services will continue to assist the dues-paid members of Crime Stoppers USA in working through the legal aspects of the challenges facing Crime Stoppers, as well as the fringe items which have an impact on the legal *health* of your corporate entity. There is strength in numbers, and CSUSA needs your continued contributions of time, leadership, and sharing of responsibility.

Let us be successful and may the threat of doom become a distant image in our rearview mirror.



WITHOUT THE VITAL INFORMATION GIVEN TO US BY THE PUBLIC, OUR PROGRAMS WOULD NOT HAVE SUCH A POSITIVE IMPACT IIN HELPING TO SOLVE CRIME AFFECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.

THANK YOU

Crime Stoppers USA is celebrating 38 years of helping to catch criminals. A great part of our success comes down to you, the public, who picked up the phone, logged in on their computer or sent a text from their cell phone. Without your commitment and dedication, the success of Crime Stoppers wouldn't be where it is at today.

With the enormous about of information Crime Stoppers programs receive from the public, this has led to the arrest and conviction of thousands of criminals across the United States and its Territories. Since Crime Stoppers USA began keeping statistics we have logged 624,596 arrests, cleared 986,280 cases, paid out over \$98 million in rewards, recovered over one billion in property and removed over three billion in drugs off the street.

624,000

People arrested since we began keeping track

986,280

Cases cleared

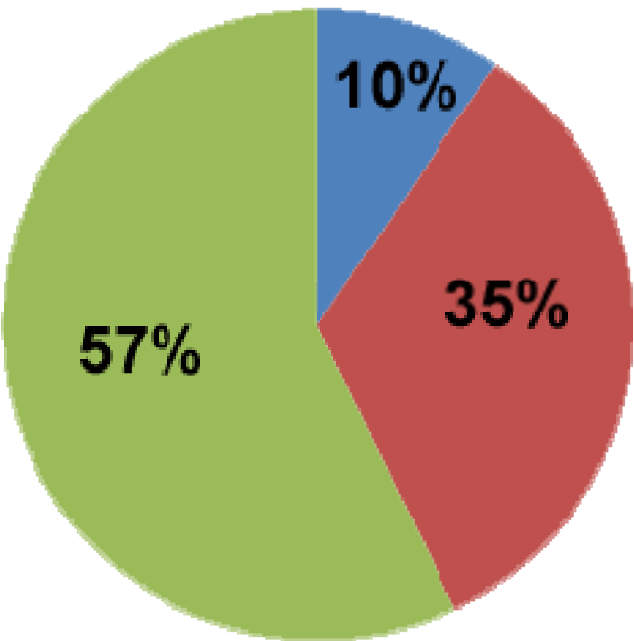
\$98,473,896

Paid out in tips to informants

\$1,124,111,984

Property recovered

\$3,002,110,553



- Information by mobile forms
- Information received online
- Information received by calls

OUR VISION

To establish Crime Stoppers as the Premier Community Based Crime Solving Program in the United States

OUR MISSION

To develop innovative resources and partnerships that promote Crime Stoppers throughout the United States.

OUR VALUES

We define ourselves by the following values. These core characteristics explain who we are and how we should be seen by others:

- **TRUSTWORTHY**
- **EFFECTIVE AND BUSINESS-LIKE**
- **NON JUDGEMENTAL**
- **REALISTIC**

Crime Stoppers USA is organized into fourteen regions across the United States and territories. Our Regional Directors are made up of individuals from Law Enforcement to business people to retirees. All of them have a love for Crime Stoppers and its mission.

Crime Stoppers specializes in taking information sensitively and anonymously from the public about a range of criminal activities. These can be from a larceny, a gun at a school to terrorist activity at a public event or even an oil production facility.

With an ever-increasing number of communications channels available to the public, we have adopted new technologies and strengthened our online and social media presence. The Crime Stoppers Website receives tips each month which are routed to local programs or governmental law enforcement to investigate.

Facebook and Twitter pages are key to publicizing our campaigns and day-to-day work of the organization with an ever increasing following.

1975	CRIME STOPPERS STARTED IN ALBUQUERQUE, NM
1976	First Tips Paid Out
1976	First not for profit formed in MNM
1977	Orlando, FL—First CS outside NM
1980	Granted 501c3 from IRS
1980	First CS conference held in NM
1981	Caller first published
1981	2nd conference held in Austin
1982	98% conviction rate reported
1984	CSUSA Board changes name to CSI
1984	CS featured on 20/20 TV show
1985	CS formed in Guam
1988	First 800 number for CS
1990	Calls taken from hearing impaired
1994	Conference in Hawaii
2001	CSUSA Incorporated
2012	CSUSA separates from CSI
2013	FORMED IACS WITH CSUK

Crime Stopper Program Successes

Los Angeles Tiger Bandit

The Tiger Bandit was wanted for over 6 Bank Robberies Los Angeles and Orange County in Nov 2012. He was dubbed the Tiger Bandit because of the Detroit Tigers Baseball hat he wore. He robbed banks in Huntington Beach, Long Beach, Santa Monica, Marina Del Rey, Lomita and Cerritos.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Major Crimes Bureau Detectives arrested Evans after receiving a Crime Stoppers tip that lead them to his location. The suspect was taken into custody after Crime Stoppers received a tip indicating his location. Sheriff Deputies conducted a search warrant that resulted in the suspects arrest and seizure of items related to the robberies.



Bartlesville police: 17-year-old student brings loaded gun to Tri-County Technology Center

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. - A 17-year-old high school student is in juvenile custody after he allegedly brought a fully-loaded weapon to a Bartlesville school Tuesday afternoon, according to police.

Bartlesville Police Chief Tom Holland told 2News around 1:15 p.m. police received a call from Tri-County Technology Center about a student with a loaded weapon tucked in his waistband.

Holland said school security learned of the weapon through an anonymous tip from Crime Stoppers. They approached the student, secured him and called police.

Police then arrested the student and turned him over to juvenile authorities. The gun was a 9 mm Glock handgun loaded with nine rounds.

According to Tri-County Technology Center officials, Tuesday's incident was the first time a gun has been brought into the school, but was not the first time the school has had trouble with this student.

"I know he has been in the office a lot," school spokesperson Tiffany Bruce told 2News Wednesday morning. "They have had other issues with him but I do not know what they are. Behavioral issues."

The school did not go into lockdown mode as the 17-year-old's location was known and he was quickly apprehended, said Bruce.

Bruce said the tip about the armed student came to security through a school "Crime Stoppers" type line.



Single tip sparks big drug-ring bust

In the fall of 2011, an anonymous tipster set off one of Central Florida's largest recent drug cases by reporting Kissimmee residents dealing **prescription** painkillers.

Months earlier, the pills had become harder to obtain when a new state law started shutting down Florida's notorious pill mills by prohibiting doctors from directly dispensing doses of oxycodone and other painkillers.

But the tipster who called Central Florida Crimeline claimed that somehow, 33-year-old Mathew Barry and a couple of friends had a constant supply, according to court records.

The information led to a statewide investigation crossing 18 counties that targeted a group using laptop computers and a special grade of watermarked paper to print prescriptions for the narcotics.

OCIB's 16-month investigation identified more than 400 suspected dealers and drug runners who passed the bogus prescriptions across the state, according to McCrimon.

Barry and 35 other Osceola County residents now await trial or have pleaded guilty after being arrested last winter, according to court records. All of the cases are being handled by the State Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution.



2012 Significant Arrests for Kansas City Crime Stoppers

As Gun Bounty TIP was received which led to a search warrant being served on the address resulting in the recovery 2 handguns, 1 assault rifle and 2 LBS of marijuana (\$6,342.00). 5 suspects were arrested for possession of controlled substance.

Special Agent Mrachek, FBI, advised this TIP led to the arrest of three males for a total of 12 counts of robbery including a northland Bank of America, a Grandview bank, two 7-11's and 1 McDonald's robbery in Kansas City. According to the agent the information was "very helpful."



Our 600th homicide arrest in program history was generated when this caller provided information to the TIPS Hotline. The suspect was identified, arrested and charged with Murder II and ACA. Sgt. Mabin, KCPD Homicide, stated, "without this TIP, the case would not have been solved."



Det. Wallace, KCPD Bomb and Arson, advised this TIP led police to the suspect and helped clear a total for four (4) arson cases from 2008 (1), 2009 (1) and 2011 (2) totaling \$200,600 in loss. Four counts of arson were brought against the suspect.

Based on the callers information members of the South Property Crimes Section (KCPD), Kansas State Highway Patrol, KCPD Tactical Response Team and investigators from National Insurance Crime Bureau arrested two suspects, recovered 1 stolen truck and 30 stolen trailers (\$80,000) and filed 24 felony counts against the suspects for theft and VIN manipulation.

Further, the caller continues to contact TIPS and provide information on other criminal activity including gun crimes.



Laredo Morning Times

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010



50¢

LAW ENFORCEMENT

10,000 rounds of ammo **263** magazines **147** assault rifles **53** bayonets

RECORD GUN BUST



Photos by Quate Santos | Laredo Morning Times

ABOVE: A cache of weapons, including 147 assault rifles, 263 high-capacity magazines and approximately 10,000 rounds of ammunition were seized Saturday by Laredo police officers after a tip was called in to the Webb County Sheriff's Crime Stoppers Division. **BELOW:** Webb County Sheriff Martin Cuellar, left, and his chief deputy, Federico Garza, look at some of the assault rifles, magazines and rounds of ammunition recovered Saturday in Laredo following a tip to the Sheriff's Crime Stoppers Division. Laredo police officers stopped a van where the weapons were found.

Thanks to a Crime Stoppers tip these weapons were taken out of circulation.



Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers

A young Asian woman was murdered in broad daylight at one of the busiest intersections in San Jose, CA. SJPD arrived on the scene promptly, and discovered "there were no witnesses". Being the excellent department that they are, they handed out Crime Stoppers business cards to all bystanders, telling them of the anonymity of the program, and the possibility of a cash reward. Lo and behold, the very next day Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers Tipline received two calls regarding the murder, which were referred to SJPD. Tipsters indicated they knew who the perpetrators were, and could provide evidence to help convict. Arrests were made the following day; still awaiting trial. Tipsters were homeless transients living in the bushes at the intersection. Each was awarded \$1,000 cash.



Crime Stoppers is PROUD to be affiliated with these
Federal Law Enforcement Agencies



and with these Organizations



Crime Stoppers USA Strategic Plan

Our vision is:

To establish Crime Stoppers as the Premier Community Based Crime Solving Program in the United States.

To meet the membership needs, our mission is:

To develop innovative resources and partnerships that promote Crime Stoppers throughout the United States.



Crime Stoppers USA's strategic plan is a flexible document that will serve as a guide to our future efforts. As we implement this plan, we will be continuously measuring progress and evaluating outcomes to ensure we are meeting our goals.

The strategic plan sets the stage for our vision and mission. It is a roadmap for success and for the progress of Crime Stoppers USA.

This plan reaffirms our dedication to our mission and our intense resolve in the face of increasing crime across our country. It makes clear our commitment to expanding the reach of Crime Stoppers across the United States and its territories.

To achieve success on the course of this plan, we will focus our work in the following areas:

- Financial Viability
- Membership
- Membership Services
- Organizational Excellence
- Legislation

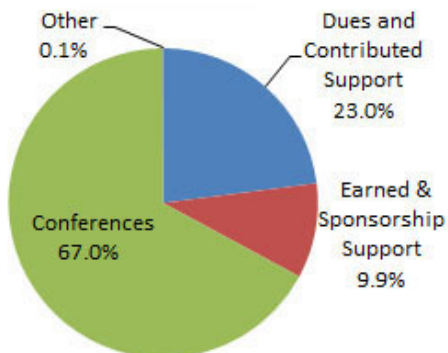
Crime Stoppers USA values any input from our membership to help achieve our goals.

Crime Stoppers USA
Statement of Operations
Fiscal Years Ending December 31, 2012 & 2011

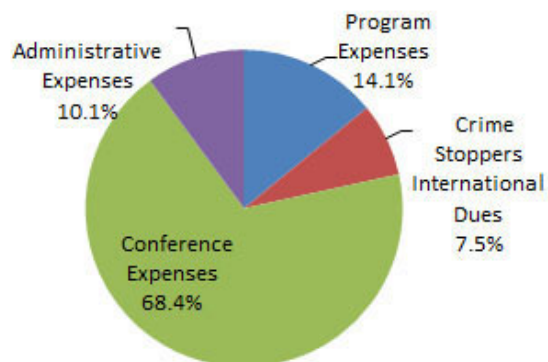
Crime Stoppers USA
Statement of Operations
Fiscal Years Ending December 31, 2012 & 2011

Receipts:	2012	2011
Dues and Contributed Sup-	\$ 70,616	66,240
Earned & Sponsorship Sup-	30,485	25,633
Conferences	206,144	6,616
Other	<u>224</u>	<u>65</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 307,469</u>	<u>\$ 98,554</u>
Disbursements:		
Program Expenses	\$ 42,473	41,677
Crime Stoppers International	22,500	22,500
Conference Expenses	206,157	15,150
Administrative Expenses	<u>30,469</u>	<u>33,231</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>301,599</u>	<u>112,558</u>
Change in Net Assets	\$ 5,870	\$ (14,004)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>92,580</u>	<u>106,584</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 98,450</u>	<u>\$ 92,580</u>

2012 Sources of Funds



2012 Uses of Funds



NEW for 2013

Crime Stoppers training conference calls have been very educational and helpful in operating our Crime Stoppers program—Charles Taraboletti, Chairman Crime Stoppers in Bartlesville, OK



How Many?

240+

**Crime Stoppers Board
Members Trained**

Where From?

**Across the United States
Canada
US Virgin Islands**

What are we delivering?

The training has covered the following themes:

- Proper Tip Taking and Handling
- Crime Stoppers and Financial Compliance
- Raising the Bar and Money

What did they say?

99% Of those who have attended the training said they found it useful

95% Of those who have been trained said they liked the topics and method of training.

99% Of those trained said they would look forward to more training from Crime Stoppers USA

Training Committee Hard at Work!

“The Training Committee has solicited information from members for additional topics for the Conference Call Training. That was critical when looking at topics for the Annual Conference making sure that the topics we selected were what membership wants. Training is being geared toward those day to day topics that local programs deal with.” - Mike Blatman—Training Chair


Check our website for a new training portal coming very soon!

TAKING INFORMATION

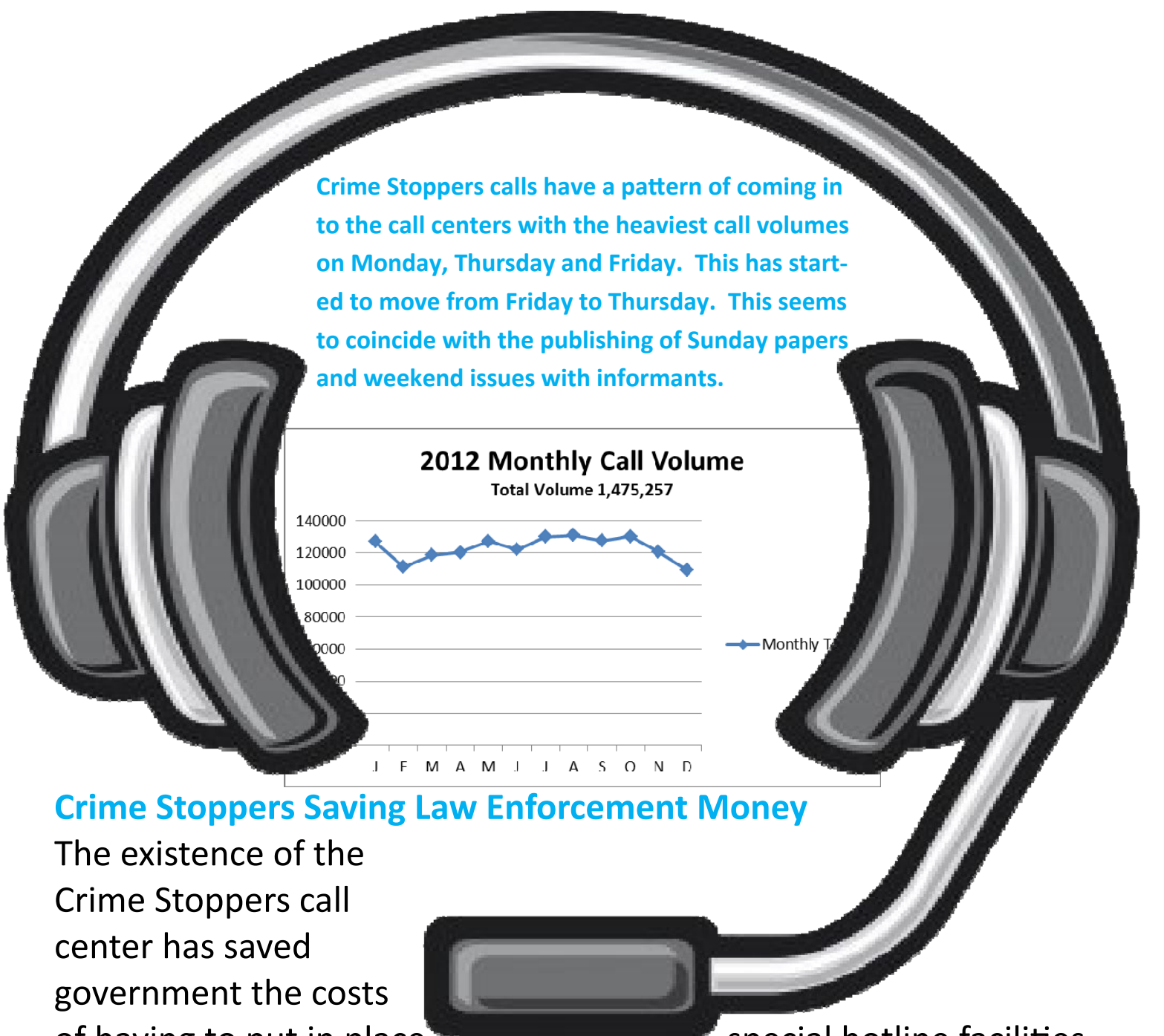
Calls to Crime Stoppers programs come into the programs by several paths..... Direct Local Numbers, CSUSA 800—222-TIPS and through our the two call centers.

The calls received at the Crime Stoppers USA call centers all take the same form. Incoming calls could be classified into the categories listed below, however that is not done as a matter of course. It is not a Crime Stoppers USA priority and would not be of much value in Crime Stoppers USA's day-to-day operations. Nevertheless, from the point of view of understanding the nature of Crime Stoppers USA's activities, it is necessary to consider the categories of calls. They comprise:

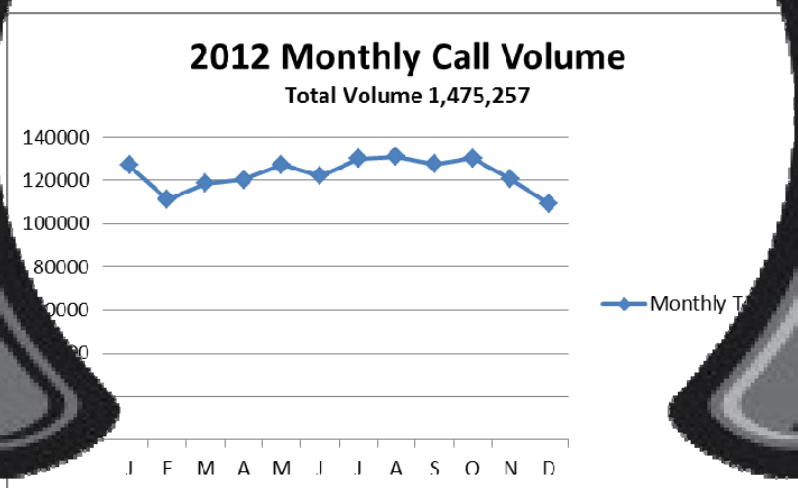
- calls initiated by callers who have information or knowledge about apparent illegal or irregular activity;
- calls responding to police requests for assistance relating to major crimes that have occurred (crimes that particularly catch the public's attention, such as the Weleetka, OK murders of two young girls in mid-2008, can lead to a large rush of calls);
- calls in response to regular Crime Stoppers publicity in newspapers, on television and local radio;
- calls prompted by news reports of criminal incidents in mainstream media or local suburban newspapers where the Crime Stoppers hotline is mentioned at the conclusion of the article; calls relating to major incidents where Crime Stoppers Programs act as a collection point for information about major incidents
- calls reporting unusual behavior of concern to the caller; misdirected calls or "wrong numbers";
- nuisance calls;
- calls from Police members seeking further information from Crime Stoppers USA staff about information reports they have received; and
- calls from people who have previously called either providing more information, or seeking an update or requesting a reward.



**TIPS THROUGH
SMART PHONE
APPLICATIONS TO
LOCAL PROGRAMS
HAVE ALSO BEEN
ON THE RISE. THESE
INCLUDE
APPLICATION TIPS**



Crime Stoppers calls have a pattern of coming in to the call centers with the heaviest call volumes on Monday, Thursday and Friday. This has started to move from Friday to Thursday. This seems to coincide with the publishing of Sunday papers and weekend issues with informants.



Crime Stoppers Saving Law Enforcement Money

The existence of the Crime Stoppers call center has saved government the costs of having to put in place

special hotline facilities for particular issues. For instance, Crime Stoppers programs received calls about terrorism across the United States. There is no reason to think that government in the future will not similarly use the Crime Stoppers hotline. The value of the benefits to the community in avoiding duplication of a central call center is hard to estimate, but assume a dedicated call center was needed for four weeks and that it would cost about the same as Crime Stoppers' call center to run, the cost would be a huge savings to the US Government.



Citizens



Law Enforcement



Macoupin and Montgomery County Crime Stoppers

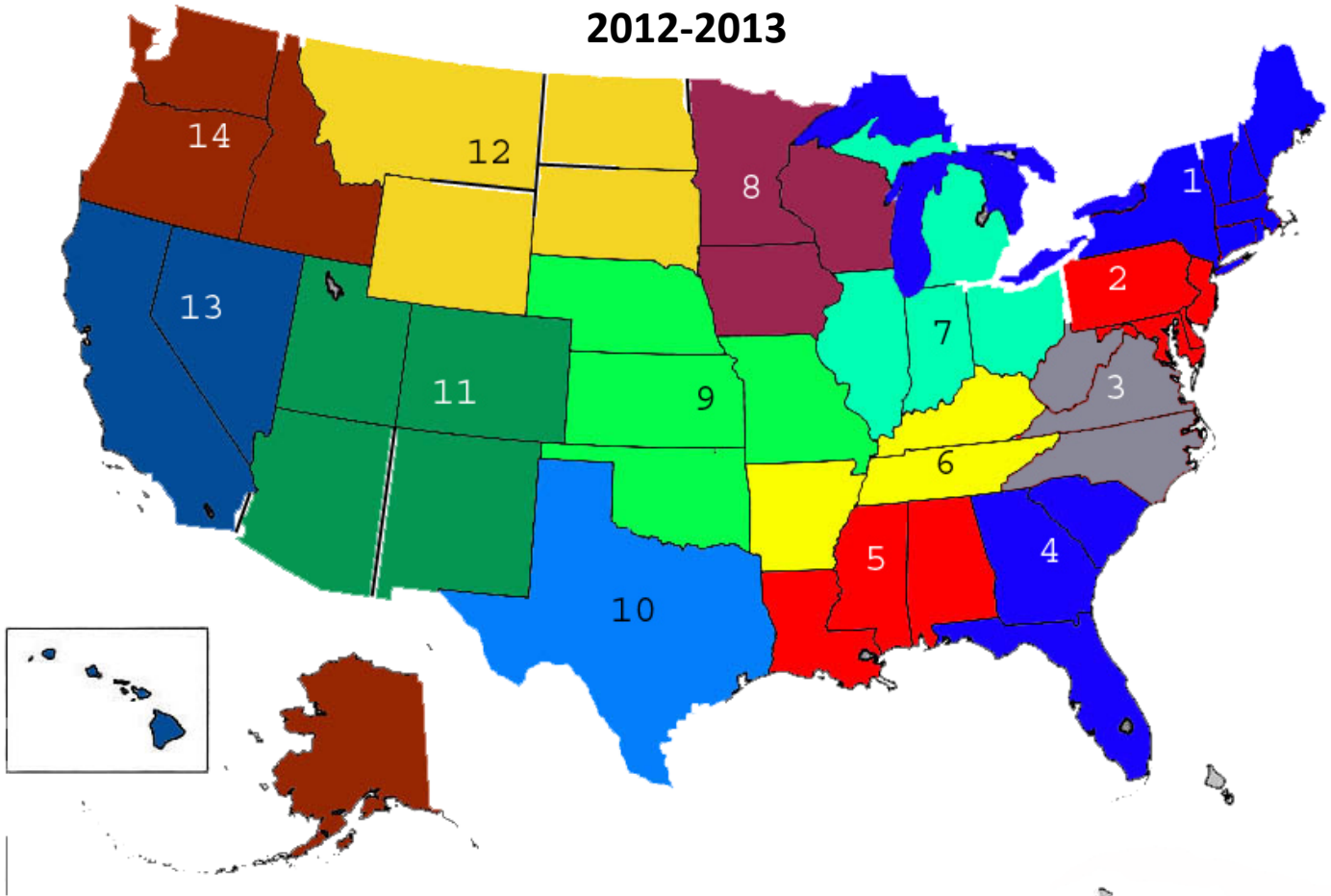


Press



Crime Stoppers USA Regional Directors

2012-2013



Region	2012	2013	Region	2012	2013
Region 1	Ron Conlin	Elaine Cloyd	Region 11	Maxine Thomas	John Koncilja III
Region 2	Tonya Borman		Region 12	Don Everson	Don Everson
Region 3	James Mounce	James Mounce	Region 13	Sally Cox	Nguyet Do
Region 4	Barb Bergin	Barb Bergin	Region 14	Michael Blatman	Michael Blatman
Region 5	James Taliaferro	James Taliaferro			
Region 6	Frank Boyd	Frank Boyd			
Region 7	Loren Hamilton	Loren Hamilton			
Region 8	John Koncilja III				
Region 9	Lisa Pisciotta	Charles Taraboletti			
Region 10	Estela Quintanilla	Estela Quintanilla			





Crime Stoppers of the United States of America, Inc.
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