

# Texas Crime Stoppers

## Resources

### Texas Crime Stoppers Training

Texas State University-San Marcos

601 University, Canyon Hall

San Marcos, TX 78666

Toll-free 866-220-4357

512-245-0571

Fax 512-245-2851

<http://www.crimestoppers.txstate.edu>

Provides Training and Technical Assistance to Crime Stoppers organizations and the general public.

### Available on-line

- Training Schedule
- Sample Forms: campus bylaws, operating procedures, articles of incorporation
- Sample Publicity: Public Service Announcements, "Crime of the Week"
- Videos Clips
- Articles
- Training - Coming Soon!
- Directory of Crime Stoppers Organizations

### To speak with a person

- Texas Crime Stoppers Training office
- Texas Crime Stoppers Advisory Council
- Training courses and conferences
- Local community programs, visit the website to find local programs

## 2003 Texas Crime Stoppers Statewide Statistics

### Campus programs (public schools, universities)

1,688 suspects arrested

3,035 cases cleared

1,974 administratively disciplined

\$215,880 value of property recovered

\$21,987 value of narcotics seized

108 weapons seized

### Community programs

5,162 suspects arrested

5,747 cases cleared

\$7,260,922 value of property recovered

\$31,624,660 value of narcotics seized

### For more information contact

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## Start a Program at Your School

Stopping crime is every citizen's responsibility.

# Texas Crime Stoppers

## What is Crime Stoppers?



Crime Stoppers is a civilian, nonprofit organization established within a community. It operates a hotline to receive anonymous tips about fugitives or criminal activity.

The program began in September 1976 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A local police officer teamed up with the media to gain the community's attention on a recent crime. They televised a reenactment of the crime and offered a cash reward for information. People with information could call a hotline anonymously to provide Crime Stoppers with information leading to the arrest and indictment of the person responsible. It worked.

Crime Stoppers is based on the idea that "Someone other than the criminal has information that can solve a crime." It breaks down the largest obstacles in getting people to provide information—fear and apathy. By offering a safe, anonymous reporting method, it provides people an alternative way to provide information about crimes and pays them a cash reward when the information leads to an arrest. Crime Stoppers accomplishes this by having a solid partnership with law enforcement, the media, the community, and dedicated volunteers who serve as the board.



## How Does Campus Crime Stoppers Work?

Currently there are over 100 community, state certified and hundreds of campus Crime Stoppers programs operating in Texas. A campus program is run with help from administration, a faculty or administrative sponsor, a law enforcement coordinator, and a student board of directors.

Campus administration establishes and publicizes a dedicated tips hotline. It also provides bulletin boards, flyers, announcements, and a dedicated sponsor. The sponsor serves as an advisor to the student board and liaison between the school administration and students, educating the students on campus rules and policies, setting meeting locations, and implementing procedures for reward payouts.

The law enforcement agency often selects a program coordinator for the law enforcement position. Generally this is the school resource officer since he or she is knowledgeable about the campus and administration. The coordinator must possess strong communication skills, work well with students, and have the respect of the students and administration. The coordinator attends all student board meetings and informs and instructs board members about crimes and laws that students violate.



The student board of directors organizes advertising, marketing, fundraising, writes the bylaws, and creates awareness of the program on campus. Most importantly the student board discusses crime information and determines reward amounts. The students never know the informant's identity and never investigate crimes.

The school administration, faculty and staff, law enforcement, and students play an integral role in educating the campus about Crime Stoppers - its program and unsolved crimes. All entities work together to create a safe campus community.

### Funding

Donations, Grants,  
Civic Clubs,  
Businesses,  
Fundraisers, Silent  
Auctions, BBQ  
Dinners, 5k Run/Walk

## Why Start a Campus Program?

### Publicity

Orientation, Campus TV,  
Website, Fliers, Kiosks,  
Campus Newspaper,  
Bulletin Boards, School  
Announcements, "Crime  
of the Week", Public  
Service Announcements

Crime Stoppers reduces and deters crime, provides anonymity, and reduces the threat of retaliation. It encourages responsibility, promotes a positive image for the school, and provides a proactive way for students to fight crime at their school. Start a

campus Crime Stoppers program at your school to create a safer learning environment with an organization run by the students for the students. Stopping crime is every citizen's responsibility.

## How Do I Start a Campus Program?

When establishing a campus Crime Stoppers program, it is important that the student board, school administration, local law enforcement, and any existing local Crime Stoppers programs work together. Enlist student's help in the art, media, drama, and other departments to fill the media, publicity, and fundraising program needs.

### To start a campus program

- Contact the school administration and local law enforcement agency
- Appoint a coordinator and sponsor
- Organize a student board
- Write bylaws and operating procedures
- Set up hotline
- Publicize
- Fundraise
- Attend training



**For more information or assistance contact Texas Crime Stoppers at 866-220-4357 or visit <http://www.crimestoppers.txstate.edu>. Click on Getting Started.**