

Plymouth Police Department joins Crime Stoppers

The Plymouth Police Department has always recognized the importance of community involvement in fighting crime. Programs like Neighborhood Watch and Night to Unite are

invaluable in keeping our community safe. However, law enforcement also understands that some people are afraid to come forward and report information they may have about crimes. That is why the police department has joined Crime Stoppers of Minnesota.

The Crime Stoppers program has been around for over 30 years. Crime Stoppers of Minnesota is a *separate and independent organization from law enforcement* for the purpose of gathering information that may not otherwise be available to police, but can help solve crimes. The motto of crime stoppers is "Crime doesn't pay...we do!"

If someone has information about a crime, he or she can call, text, or submit the information to Crime Stoppers of Minnesota on the computer. No matter how small or insignificant the information may seem, it may be the one piece of the puzzle that police need to solve a crime.

To submit a tip by phone:

Call 1-800-222-TIPS. The call is free and calls are answered 24/7. The call line includes a language option for English or Spanish; however, the call line also is able to translate other languages, such as Somali.

To submit a tip by computer:

Go to www.crimestoppersmn.org. Click on the "Submit a Tip" button on the main page. Web tips can be made in English, French, and Spanish.

To submit a tip by text message: Text TIP674 plus your message to 274637. Standard text messaging rates may apply.

Crime Stoppers forwards all tips to the appropriate law enforcement agency. *If* the information leads to the arrest and prosecution of the suspect, the tipster is eligible to receive a cash reward **up to** \$1,000.

Crime Stoppers is <u>completely anonymous</u>, so no one can know who submitted the tip, which helps protect the tipster from retaliation. Crime Stoppers works by assigning a unique Tip ID number to each call, text, or web tip. The tipster is responsible for writing down this unique ID number. They can then check back with Crime Stoppers of Minnesota periodically to see if their tip received a reward. If the tip is eligible for a reward, the tipster can request how and when they would like to receive their reward.

Crime Stoppers is only for information about crimes that have already been committed. For a crime in progress, please dial 9-1-1 immediately! We need your help in the fight against crime. If you have information about a crime, call, text, or click Crime Stoppers of Minnesota! Your tip could solve a crime, help bring resolution to victims and their families, and earn you <u>up to</u> \$1,000 per successful tip!