

Crime Stoppers USVI 1st Anniversary Press Release

This document will be available online at approximately Noon on Monday, January 11, 2010. Please go to <http://www.CrimeStoppersUSVI.org/> and click Media Coverage.

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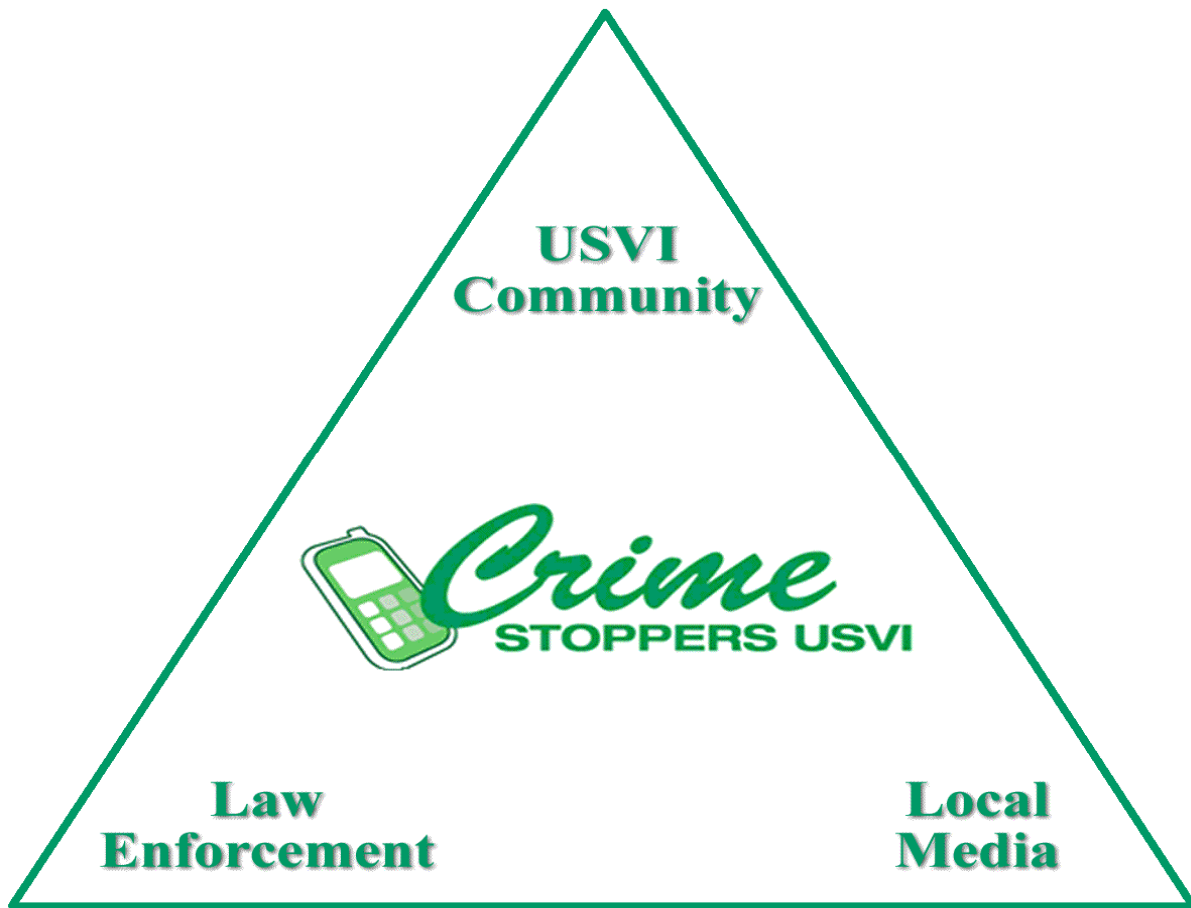
Corrections:

The following corrections have been made to this document since it was first released:

Corrected on January 11, 2010, 12 Noon:

- On the cover page, the “available online” date was changed from Tuesday, January 12, 2010 to Monday, January 11, 2010
- At the bottom of the Statistics page, “Total rewards 69” was changed to “Total tips 69”

Together We Are



Celebrating Our Successful First Year of Helping to
Make the USVI a Safer Place to Live, Work, and Raise
a Family

Introduction

There are over over 1200 Crime Stoppers chapters across the US and around the world. The program works by allowing citizens to provide anonymous tips about crimes via the phone, web or text message. If a tip leads to an arrest, the recovery of stolen property, illegal drugs, or guns, the tipster receives a cash reward of up to \$2500.

On January 7, 2010, Crime Stoppers USVI marked the one-year anniversary since its official launch. With many thanks to our various partners, we have completed a successful first year which exceeded all expectations. All of our partners are very valuable to us, and they include:

The Citizens

The anonymous citizens who provided law enforcement with the 508 tips in calendar year 2009 that led to 75 arrests that may not have happened if the citizens had not stepped forward and provided the information that law enforcement needed to complete their investigations.

Law Enforcement

As Crime Stoppers gained traction, the investigating officers became more enthusiastic about the community's tips. In the early months of the program, it was sometimes difficult to get law enforcement to look at the tips, but now the officers are not only acting on them, they are asking for them. There have been more tips than law enforcement can handle at times, but they remain committed to investigating each tip thoroughly. Also, if people are hesitant to talk to law enforcement, they will encourage them to submit their tips via Crime Stoppers. local law enforcement and federal agencies; each of our partners has become an instrumental component in the success of Crime Stoppers.

Local Media

Our media partners play an important role by publishing our weekly Wednesday release, in which we ask for tips about specific crimes on St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas. When we ask for those tips, we usually receive them. The media role is so important that we see a direct correlation between the number of media outlets who run our release, and the number of tips received later that week. Our weekly releases can be seen at <http://www.crimestoppersusvi.org/crimeoftheweek.aspx>. The media is also generous with its resources by having us on their radio talk shows, by airing our PSAs, and by publicizing the successes.

Members and Sponsors

Our members and sponsors provide us with the necessary financial resources to run this program. We pay no salaries, since our staff is entirely volunteers, but we do have real expenses in the form of reward payments, training, printing, phones, etc. Crime Stoppers USVI had 249 dues-paying members in 2009, who each contributed cash or services from as little as \$10 to as much as \$12,600. A list of some of our current sponsors is at <http://www.crimestoppersusvi.org/sponsors.aspx>.

Volunteers

More than 50 volunteers contributed an estimated 7020 hours of their time to Crime Stoppers USVI over the last year, doing the ordinary and extraordinary things that must be done for the program to be successful. The volunteers' activities included regular meetings to plan our progress, working with law enforcement as needed,

fundraising, paying rewards, soliciting tips via our weekly release, media appearances and literature, making presentations to various groups, and more.

Statistics

Thanks to the local media for advertising the existence of the Crime Stoppers program, the confidence of the community in the program maintaining all tipsters anonymity, and the work of the various Law Enforcement agencies in following up on the information provided by the public; the volunteers of Crime Stoppers USVI is pleased to announce the following 2009 statistics.

- 508 tips were received
- 337 were from St. Croix, 129 from St. Thomas, 27 from St. John, and 15 Other
- 155 tips were closed
- 69 tips produced 75 arrests
- Of the arrests, 59 were on St. Croix, 9 were on St. Thomas, and 1 was on on St. John
- Over 98 cases were cleared
- 172 charges were laid
- \$13,500 of stolen property and cash was recovered
- \$38,950 of drugs were confiscated
- 40 illegal weapons were confiscated
- 59 rewards totaling \$47,061 were authorized
- 23 rewards totaling \$18,887 were paid were paid
- Average reward paid was \$821
- 11 rewards totaling \$13,660 expired (6 months after award date)
- \$14,514 of rewards are outstanding
- Average number of days to produce an arrest was 46
- 16 of the arrests occurred in less than 10 days

The 69 successful tips were in the following categories:

By Category		By Frequency	
Bail Violation	1	Drug Related	16
Burglaries	7	Fugitives from Justice	13
Drug Related	16	Weapons Confiscated	11
Fugitives from Justice	13	Robberies	9
Harboring a Fugitive	1	Burglaries	7
Hit & Run	1	Homicides	6
Homicides	6	Person of Interest	3
Person of Interest	3	Bail Violation	1
Robberies	9	Harboring a Fugitive	1
Stolen Property Recovered	1	Hit & Run	1
Weapons Confiscated	11	Stolen Property Recovered	1
Total tips	69	Total tips	69

PRELIMINARY
INCOME AND EXPENSES OF
CRIME STOPPERS USVI
FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009

PRELIMINARY FIGURES	<u>Jan - Dec 09</u>
Income	
Income from Members/Sponsors	49,965.18
Total Cash Income	<u>49,965.18</u>
Expense	
800 number	1,115.65
Advertising	7,100.20
Banking Fees	49.50
Click & Pledge Fees	71.30
Depreciation	337.00
Dues & Licenses	250.00
Education & Training	2,030.73
Internet Service	84.60
Legal and Accounting	85.00
Office supplies	940.47
Postage and Freight	459.15
Rent	DONATED
Rewards Paid	18,887.00
Rewards To Be Paid	14,514.00
Salaries	NONE
Software	3,128.40
Telephone	2,997.60
Total Expense	<u>52,050.60</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-2,085.42</u></u>

Tentative Schedule for our Anniversary Week

Saturday January 16, 2010

Arrival of Thomas Kern, Chairman of the Board Crime Stoppers USA

Arrival of Tamimi Lawlor, Crime Stoppers USA At-Large Board Member

6:00 to 8:00 pm: St. Croix reception at Government House. For Crime Stoppers members, their guests, and invited dignitaries.

Sunday January 17, 2010 Day off Monday January 18, 2010 TBA

Tuesday January 19, 2010

Press appointments

6:00 to 8:00 pm: St. Thomas reception at the Courtyard between the Alexander Farrelly Justice Complex and Superior Court in Charlotte Amalie. For Crime Stoppers members, their guests, invited dignitaries, and the public.

Wednesday January 20, 2010

Press Appointments

6:00 to 8:00 pm: St. John reception at the The Battery in Cruz Bay. For Crime Stoppers members, their guests, invited dignitaries and the public.

Thursday January 21, 2010

Press appointments

Friday January 22, 2010

Day off

Saturday January 23, 2010

Guests depart

Bios of our guests from Crime Stoppers USA



Lieutenant **Thomas Kern** is a 24-year veteran of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has served as a patrol officer, child sexual and physical abuse investigator, information technology specialist, narcotics detective, police training instructor, internal affairs investigator, hostage-crisis negotiator and street sergeant. Tom has received several commendations, including the medal of valor, for actions taken in the line of duty. Tom has been associated with Crime Stoppers for more than ten years, currently serves as Program Director for Crime Stoppers of Central Indiana, and Chairman of the Crime Stoppers USA board of directors.



Tami Lawlor is the President and founder of “At A Moment’s Notice”, a multi-media marketing company developed to assist organizations with special projects involving public relations, fundraising and media. A graduate of North Carolina State University, Tami’s career in marketing began in New York City working for a national television rep firm. After working in New York and Miami, Tami’s work with media gravitated toward marketing. After several years working with national organizations on trade show and print marketing, Tami began working with local media promoting local, regional and national Crime Stopper stories. Tami managed the relationship between the RxPATROL initiative and Crime Stopper programs throughout the United States for 4.5 years. Tami was an integral part of growing the program 620% over 4 years.

As a professional public relations consultant, Tami has successfully developed and promoted several fundraisers for various Crime Stoppers programs including an Annual TV Telethon, golf outings, Mile of Quarters, Awards Ceremonies and Regional Conferences. She has also written grants for local Crime Stopper programs bringing in more than \$1 million dollars in funds.

Currently Tami is an at large member of the CSUSA board of directors. Tami is active with several new clients working to maximize and develop marketing strategies in the social media arena. Tami is passionate about developing resources and opportunities for local Crime Stopper programs