



# *in* PURSUIT

The Official Communication of The Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers

February 2020

## *President's Message*

by K. Scott Abrams, CPA, CGMA

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## Say It Here!

Crime Stoppers USA was asked to participate in the National Preparedness Leadership Initiative (NPLI), a joint venture of the Harvard School of Public Health Division of Policy Translation and Leadership Development and the Harvard Kennedy Schools Center of Public Leadership. The NPLI works in collaboration with key government agencies to ensure today's unprecedented challenges are met with uncommon leadership from federal, state and local officials encouraging conductivity across public, private and nonprofit sectors.

NPLI recognized the 'If You See Something, Say Something' national campaign, originally implemented and trademarked by the New York City Metropolitan Transportation Authority and licensed to DHS as a nationwide campaign, raising public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime. NPLI began exploring ways to find pathways to operationalize a tangential national campaign by connecting it to local or national anonymous reporting methods. Therefore, the NPLI Team created the 'Say It Here' concept.

The Teams research confirmed the Say It Here assessment next step in enhancing the efficacy and utility of this campaign would be a more centralized mechanism possibly with a recognizable telephone number, website or application. The Team determined that there were might be ways to collaborate and leverage with local community anonymous tip taking programs and an outreach was made to Crime Stoppers, revealing a closely related effort whose strategies and methodologies appear well suited for collaborations with 'Say It Here.'

Crime Stoppers USA, along with the Canadian Crime Stoppers, were brought in to engage and operationalize how 'Say It Here' would be best positioned and mobilized in North America. The coordination of bringing Crime Stoppers programs together in the United States and Canada was an opportunity for best practices coming together in an appropriate network. Identifying appropriate media, such as telephone, web and PSA's and securing and trademarking the Say It Here were important steps to take. Crime Stoppers USA created a template and framework for this national program identifying suspicious activity reporting including the provision of baseline of useful "what to look for" indicators for both public safety personnel and the public.

Crime Stoppers USA has applied for and received trademark rights for 'Say It Here.' There are several versions of the trademark which are located in the Crime Stoppers USA 'Say It Here' media packet, and here is one of them:



Since Crime Stoppers USA was unable to trademark 'Crime Stoppers' due to another organization already having applied for that trademark, this allows Crime Stoppers organizations to embrace this trademark and slogan reinforcing that Crime Stoppers is the safest, completely anonymous way to report.

(...continued on Page 2)

## Conference

## Registration



(...President's Message continued from Page 1)

Crime Stoppers USA is proud to offer Say It Here™ logo to our Crime Stoppers USA members. Each time we use Say It Here™ the more valuable the slogan becomes. This trademark and slogan is only available to members of Crime Stoppers USA. It is important to utilize the™ trademark when you use the Say It Here™ logo which protects the organization's legal right to use the slogan.

There is strength in numbers. We want each of our Crime Stoppers USA members to embrace this new slogan and utilize it on your letterhead, website, Facebook, etc... wherever and anytime you are identifying and promoting your program.

Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers has embraced this as part of our theme for the upcoming training conference: 'Say It Here™—Keep On Talking'. We want you and the public to know that it is safe to provide anonymous tip information to anywhere they may see the Say It Here™ words and logo! If you are not currently a member in Crime Stoppers USA, please feel free to contact me or visit the Crime Stoppers USA website at [www.CrimeStoppersUSA.org](http://www.CrimeStoppersUSA.org) for additional information. Members of Crime Stoppers USA may visit the website and go to the Members Login and type in 'Say It Here Media Kit' in the search area to obtain the logos and guidelines for utilizing Say It Here™.

## Shoot—Don't Shoot Simulator Experience

By: John Schluechtermann, Sheboygan Countywide Crime Stoppers

A special treat for those attending the conference was the ability to participate in a Shoot/Don't Shoot Simulation. The simulation experience is typically used as a training tool by law enforcement academies and current organizations to safely train their individuals in situations where they may be required to use lethal force to resolve a situation. Individuals attending the conference were able to take 15 minutes away from the main conference events to see how they would react to various scenarios.

The simulator uses a computer, projector, multiple cameras and a simulated gun to provide the interactive experience. The individual operating the simulator has the ability to influence the outcome of the situation based on their observations of the individual interacting with the scenario and whether it can be resolved without the use of lethal force.

To begin my experience Deputy Merryfield who was operating the simulator starts out by explaining what a law enforcement individual must consider before lethal force can be used. Law enforcement officials are permitted to use deadly force towards an individual who exhibits, "*behavior which has caused or imminently threatens to cause death or great bodily harm to you or another person or persons.*" Before using lethal force in the various scenarios I participate in I am supposed to make sure that I can satisfy that requirement.

The simulator experience then started out with target practice in order to get you used to the weapon and the interaction with the screen. I was able to strike the targets with ease and not miss any of them. The experience then moved on to the various scenarios. My first scenario involved an incident at an ATM where a male subject appeared to be forcing a female victim to withdraw money while holding a gun to their head. I started out by approaching this individual with my weapon drawn while attempting to order them to lower their weapon. During my interactions the subject eventually lowered their weapon while moving towards a waiting vehicle. Eventually the subject was able to get into the waiting vehicle and get away. A quick debrief of this scenario did indicate that I would have been justified to use deadly force when the subject was holding the victim at gunpoint, although I did

not trust by shooting ability to take such a shot.

The next scenario involved a response to a car lot for an individual with a gun. This required me to walk through the car lot attempting to locate the individual. Eventually I encountered the subject who quickly opened fire at me before I was able to get a shot off. I quickly returned fire, continuing to fire until the individual was no longer a threat. A quick debrief of this scenario showed that my target accuracy which seemed perfect during the target practice was no longer at that level with multiple shots missing the subject I was aiming at.

My third scenario involved an upset individual at a town meeting room. During my interaction with this scenario the individual did not respond to my commands and was able to come and go from view. Eventually the individual appeared back in view with a weapon and was able to discharge that weapon towards other subjects in the room before I was able to take action and stop the threat. A quick debrief of this scenario focused on needing to keep the individual engaged and in view.

The final scenario started with an individual who was wounded and lying on the ground with two individuals who appeared to be assisting him. As I got closer to the wounded individual I noticed a tire iron or similar item on the ground in reach of the male subject who had appeared to be assisting the individual. He then picked up that item and I reacted by pointing my weapon at him and instructing



him to drop his weapon. During this exchange I became very focused on the one individual and lost track of the other subject who had appeared to be helping the victim, that is until I saw the flash from the muzzle of a gun. I then returned fire on the second individual. This last scenario illustrated the need to remain aware of the entire situation even when dealing with just a portion of what is occurring.

Reflecting on my experiences the first thing I realized is I am not sure if I even remembered the instructions provided to me of when deadly force was able to be used and when it could not be used during the events of the scenarios. In addition as I went through the scenarios I never felt any fear that I was not going to be able to return to the conference proceedings when my time expired even if I was shot at from the subjects I encountered. Even though I did not experience that fear or conscious anxiety my accuracy while shooting at the victims suffered and was not where it was during the target practice at the beginning. These results of decreased accuracy do reflect actual results when trained professionals encounter a similar situation.

The following are a couple other takeaways from myself and others that participated in this experience. The first was how quickly the various events occurred and the need to be able to react quickly. In the case of my scenarios I typically had my weapon always pointed at the screen and did not need to draw it from a belt which should have given me an advantage over a typical response. The second takeaway was the need to continue to keep shooting until the threat was eliminated. Typically this meant that the weapon needed to be fired multiple times not only to account for missing the target but the fact that one shot did not always stop the individual.

Although our law enforcement partners do not experience situations that require the use of deadly force regularly they need to always be prepared to encounter it at any time. Thank you to all our law enforcement partners for undertaking this calling.

## Crime Prevention Court Fund

By: David Byrnes, Green Bay Area Crime Stoppers — WI State Board Member

One of the main goals of every Crime Stopper (CS) organization is to secure enough money to operate each year. There are many different activities, events, and programs CS organizations do to raise needed funds. These events typically require many hours of planning, preparation and execution. Another source for funding is to consider developing a Crime Prevention Court Fund.

The Green Bay Area Crime Stoppers (GBACS) is one of

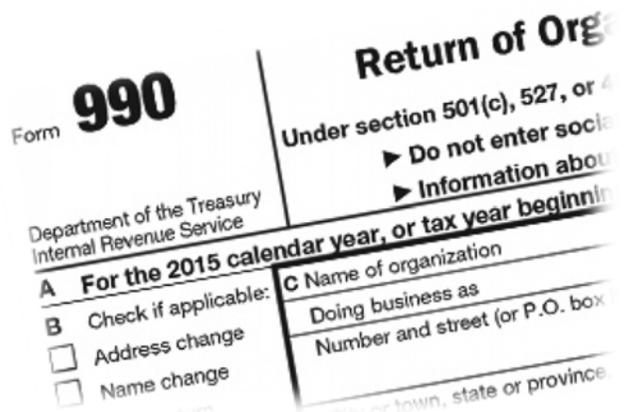
(... continued on Page 4)



## IRS Deadline Reminder—May 15, 2020

An important upcoming IRS deadline for Crime Stoppers organizations! If you have fiscal year end date of December 31, 2019, you must file your Form 990 series by the May 15, 2020 deadline. That is the requirement for any and all tax-exempt charitable organizations with a December 31, 2019 fiscal year end date. The statute states all charitable organizations, except churches, must file the Form 990 series annual return before or on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the fifth month following their fiscal year.

This requirement now applies to all tax-exempt charitable 501(c)(3) Crime Stoppers organizations no matter the amount of revenue generated by the organization. If your organization is unable to meet the filing deadline, apply for an automatic 6-month extension by filing Form 8868 before the original filing due date to remain compliant! However, there is no extension available if you qualify to file Form 990-N, those organizations with less than \$50,000 in revenues during the fiscal year. There are no penalties for a late filing of Form-990-N, a simple online short question annual return, however, not filing a Form 990 series return for three consecutive years will cause the IRS to automatically revoke the tax exempt charity status of that organization.



(...Crime Prevention Court Fund from Page 3)

the few organizations in the state that operates in a county which has established a Crime Prevention Court Fund. This year GBACS received its second grant in the amount of \$5,600. At the beginning of the year GBACS completed a request to the Court Fund Board for \$5,600 to be used to cover the cost of the tip line, call center, board insurance, P3, printing of materials, and our website software. These make up half of our annual operating costs. To have these costs paid for by the grant allows us to use our monies for other projects.

Wisconsin State Statute 59.54 allows for a Crime Prevention Court Fund Board to be established in each county. There have been several CS organizations that have attempted to get a board started but have failed due to lack of support from Judges, Law Enforcement, and/or Clerks of Court. To have any chance of getting a Board started you must gain the support of the Sheriff, the County Executive, and having the support of 1 or 2 judges would be a plus. It is not the responsibility of the court to start a Court Fund. It has been the experience of GBACS that the driving person is typically the County Executive.

Before approaching the County Executive, it is important to have a thorough understanding of WI State Statute 59.54 and what elements are required by the statute. Then a well-organized and thoughtful presentation will need to be made to the County Executive and the Sheriff or Chief of Police from the largest department in the county. Law Enforcement support is absolutely critical to the success of getting a Board established.

I believe many Law Enforcement agencies are unaware that the Statute allows for their department to request money from the Crime Prevention Court Fund. The Statute limits the organizations who can benefit from the court fund to Law Enforcement organizations and non-profits whose main mission or goal is crime prevention. There are few non-profits with this as their mission but Crime Stoppers is one of them!

Having access to the Crime Prevention Court Fund money to cover our yearly operating expenses relieves a very large burden from the GBACS. It also allows the funds raised through our yearly golf outing to be used for additional programming purposes.

The WI State Crime Stoppers educational conference has covered this topic in the past and will assist any local CS with materials and support to move forward in trying to establish a Crime Prevention Court Fund Board.



## 2019 State Conference Reflection

By: John Schluechtermann, Sheboygan Countywide Crime Stoppers

The Wisconsin State Board of Directors did not let the threat of a major spring snowstorm stop it from once again presenting those in attendance with an information packed couple of days. Thanks to the many efforts of all of those involved with the conference planning and those presenting, the conference helped to educate all of those attending on the various items facing crime stopper boards and volunteers as they work to carry out the mission of their organization.

Making its second appearance at the conference was the scenario based breakout session. This portion of the conference challenged the groups to work together to determine how to handle situations that have been encountered by various organizations in the past. Don't worry the names and details were changed to protect the innocent. Attendees are split up into strategic groups which are composed of individuals from the various organizations in attendance. These groups provide a unique opportunity to learn how other organizations and individuals approach a situation. The groups then present their solutions to the remaining members of the conference which allows for an even larger opportunity for discussion on how these situations can be handled. If this is done in the future for anyone attending you might want to remember the term "Memorandum of Understanding", if you are unsure what that is you might want to become familiar with that term as it is a valuable tool for your crime stoppers organization when working with outside partners or agencies.

Some of the other familiar sessions included the return of the Crime Stoppers Knowledge Trivia which tested the attendees knowledge of crime stoppers concepts and statistics both at the state and national level. Attendees were also able to share their organizations experiences or memorable moments in the session titled, "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly".

The conference also featured the Crime Stoppers 101 session presented in a new way. Instead of having the coordinators and board members split up into separate rooms everyone remained together in one big group. This allowed for the various classification of attendees to gain an insight into duties and responsibilities of not only their position but the other portion of the organization as well.

Other sessions presented at the conference educated the attendees on the necessary steps to follow if they ever find themselves in the middle of an active shooter situation and what impact technology has on the way the organizations manage tips now and into the future.

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**Save the Dates!**

**2020 Annual Wisconsin  
State Crime Stoppers Conference**

**Theme: Say It Here—Keep On Talking!**

**April 30 & May 1-2, 2020**

Chula Vista Resort

**TWO FOR ONE REGISTRATION!**

**First Registrant = \$125**

**2nd Registration = FREE!**

**2020 Conference Highlights**

**Bringing back the 2 for 1 registration!** That's right, WSCS is offering a 2 for 1 again for this year's conference. Have one program member purchase a registration for the full price of \$125, WSCS is offering another registrant from the same member program at **NO COST!** Register a 3<sup>rd</sup> member from the program, the 4<sup>th</sup> registrant is at **NO COST!** (Registration cost only – does not include lodging). WSCS wanted to give back to our membership so others may take advantage and receive the same training. Some programs aren't able to send multiple individuals from a program due to cost; however, we hope this will allow multiple board members from a program to attend the conference!

**Keynote Speaker: Anne E. Schwartz on Partnering with Media!** Schwartz is a highly recognized speaker and trainer in the law enforcement area... She has served as the spokesman for several Milwaukee Police Chiefs (Hegerty and Flynn), was a Milwaukee television reporter and a print reporter for the Milwaukee Journal. She was instrumental in breaking the Jeffrey Dahmer story and followed the entire case and writing a book entitled: 'The Man Who Couldn't Kill Enough.' Schwartz is currently a regular on-air personality with the Steve Scaffidi Show on WTMJ 620 Radio.

**Interactive Table Top Training Session** This has become a conference favorite over the last several years! Various scenarios regarding issues confronting local Crime Stoppers programs from around the US are presented. Attendees break into small groups to determine the root cause and offer ideas on how to correct and/or avoid the issue in the future. Group report out allows all participants to gain the insight from these scenarios.

**Active Shooter Simulator.** This was a popular segment of our conference last year! A new shooting scenario will be offered to test your skills. Are you ready?!?

**Other Crime Stoppers Operating Sessions:** Training will also be provided on: CS 101-Board and Coordinator Responsibilities Crime Stoppers School Programs, and Governance Compliance. A speaker on Human Trafficking.

**Friday After Banquet Entertainment** Join us for the guitar and classic country songs as performed by Bobby Vintage! Sit back and enjoy your liquid beverages as we complete the first day of the conference.

**Crime Stoppers Tailgate plus the Crime Stoppers History and Trivia Contest.** Join us on Thursday evening for our annual Tailgate Party and Trivia Quiz. Reacquaint with your fellow Crime Stoppers friends, enjoy some tailgate food items and enjoy some beverages. Bring your Tom Terrific Thinking Cap and perhaps win a fabulous prize playing the Crime Stoppers Trivia contest!

**Conference Registration Materials are now available on the WSCS website at [www.wicrimestoppers.org](http://www.wicrimestoppers.org) by going to the Conference on the left hand menu!**



**WISCONSIN STATE CRIMESTOPPERS CONFERENCE**  
**Chula Vista Resort – Wisconsin Dells APRIL 30-May 2, 2020**  
**“Say It Here – Keep On Talking!”**

**Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers – Member Registration Form**

Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your first WSCS conference? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Crime Stoppers Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check:** Civilian Representative \_\_\_\_\_ L/E Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Number of WSCS Conferences Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Conference Fees</b>	Prior to April 14 <sup>th</sup> WSCS Members	After April 14 <sup>th</sup> & Non-Members	Total	Meals & all breaks are included in the conference fee. Please check which meals you will attend.																						
<b>Full Conference (Thursday evening), Friday &amp; Saturday</b> Includes: - Thursday evening Workshops and Tailgate Buffet - Friday Breakfast, Lunch & Banquet - Saturday Breakfast	<b>\$125</b> (\$125 for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> full registrants. 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> registrants are FREE! Fill out add'l of this form with \$0 for registration.	<b>\$140</b>  No reduced rate after April 1st	\$ _____	<b>Meals</b>																						
				<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td align="center"><b>Yes</b></td> <td align="center"><b>No</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday Night</td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chilli Cookoff</td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday B'fast</td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday Lunch</td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday Banquet</td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat B'fast</td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	Thursday Night	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chilli Cookoff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday B'fast	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday Banquet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sat B'fast	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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<b>Additional Guest Meals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday Tailgate \$17</li> <li>• Friday Breakfast \$12</li> <li>• Friday Lunch \$14</li> <li>• Friday Banquet \$30</li> <li>• Saturday Breakfast \$12</li> </ul>			\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____	For guest meals we will assume if you are purchasing the meal(s) for a guest, they will be present for those meal(s) and we will count them when ordering meals and for seating.																						

**Total Conference Fees** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**No refund of food related costs if canceled after April 22, 2020**

**Make Checks Out to “Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers”**

Mail registration and check to:

WSCS Treasurer, David Byrnes; PO Box 1087; Green Bay, Wisconsin 54305

Conference registration questions email to David Byrnes at: burnz1973@gmail.com

If paying by Credit Card, enter info below and mail to Treasurer David Byrnes to address above:

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ ; Verification Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Holder's billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel Reservations**

Chula Vista Resort; 2501 River Road Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965 Phone: 1-855-608-5489

Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the attendee. Booking ID #H13568 Reserve Rooms under the Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers Conference

**Rooms will be held only until April 16, 2020 at the state rate of \$82.00, single, \$109 double.**

If reserving a room after April 16<sup>th</sup>, you may have to pay the full room rate *if there is availability.*

State rate Saturday night guaranteed only when booked with original reservation

**If using a business credit card (not in your name) a Credit Card Authorization form must be completed and submitted at time of check-in.**

Proof of tax exemption can be shown at check-in.

The conference also brought the return of Judge Richard Carter, who helped provide a little entertainment throughout the conference, before he rushed away to the airport to beat the impending snowstorm, as well as highlight the new slogan 'Say It Here™!' from Crime Stoppers USA.

Throughout the various days of the conference attendees were also invited to participate in a "Shoot, Don't Shoot! Simulator" with the help of Deputy Merryfield and the Dunn County Sheriff's Department. There is a sepa-

rate article highlighting my experience elsewhere in the newsletter.

The opportunities to gather information from the various presentations and interactive sessions at the conference are limitless and hard to capture in words. Hopefully if you attended the conference you were able to take a few things back to your organization and put them into practice. If you were not in attendance please make sure to plan on attending the next conference to be able to experience those interactive sessions first hand.



# Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers Annual Conference & Meeting

## April 30 & May 1-2, 2020

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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www.Facebook.com/WiCrimeStop



### SEND ARTICLES TO:

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