

~ *News Release* ~



Moorhead Police Department

David G. Ebinger
Chief of Police

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Moorhead Police Expands Crime Fighting Tip Collection Methods

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Moorhead Police Department has joined with Crime Stoppers of Minnesota to increase the ways that citizens can anonymously pass on information to help solve crimes. In addition to staying anonymous, persons giving tips may be eligible to collect **up to \$1,000** in reward. The additional ways that citizens can turn in tips may save thousands of dollars of investigators' time, speed the solving of cases and help bring comfort to the victims of a crime. Tips may be turned in by a Toll Free phone call, on the Internet, or by SMS Text Messaging from a cell phone, all supplied and maintained by Crime Stoppers of Minnesota.

Through this partnership, the Moorhead Police Department will receive tips that Crime Stoppers collects through its systems because citizens may be reluctant to step forward to 'get involved' directly with the Police but who still want to 'do the right thing'. The Police will gain the ability to have tips connect directly to the Crime Stoppers of Minnesota Web Tip Form by putting a hot link on its Department website.

People with knowledge about a crime or a fugitive can volunteer tips to Crime Stoppers by calling (1-800-222-TIPS [8477]), going online at www.crimestoppersmn.org, or by texting on a cell phone TIP674, plus a message SEND to CRIMES [274637]. Crime Stoppers' procedures

Public Information Officer

Lt. Tory Jacobson

Office 218-299-5117

Tory.jacobson@ci.moorhead.mn.us

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accept tips in any language by the phone; in English, Spanish or French on the Internet; and keep the identity of the tipster anonymous from law enforcement or anyone else. If the tip leads to an arrest or charging the tipster may qualify to receive a reward of **up to \$1,000** and still remain anonymous.

Crime Stoppers of Minnesota is a non-profit organization separate and independent of government and law enforcement that is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who oversee its operations and fundraising efforts. Donations to Crime Stoppers of Minnesota are tax deductible and can be made at the website. Crime Stoppers of Minnesota has been in operation since 1979 when it was formed as the nation's second such program. Today there are over 1200 Crime Stoppers programs around the world.

CONTACT

Crime Stoppers of Minnesota
Robert Dennistoun
Executive Director
651-452-7463
rdennistoun@hamnonsecurity.com

Public Information Officer
Lt. Tory Jacobson
Office 218-299-5117
Tory.jacobson@ci.moorhead.mn.us