



NEWS

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New Anonymous Crime Reporting Hotline Program marketed to 90 thousand families in Chicago's most dangerous neighborhoods
Chicago residents also encouraged to use number to report hate crimes

For Immediate Release

Chicago, IL – Tuesday, May 2, 2017- In an effort to prevent crimes and help solve those already committed, the Chicago Crime Commission introduced a new Anonymous Crime Reporting Hotline. While it can be utilized by citizens throughout the Chicagoland area, special emphasis will be made to market the Hotline to 90 thousand families living in Chicago's most violent neighborhoods. Also, Chicago area residents are being encouraged to utilize the new phone number to report hate crimes be committed in their neighborhoods.

The news conference was attended by representatives for the Cook County Sheriff's Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the United States Marshal's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

"It is the intention of this initiative to enable Chicagoans who are reluctant to call the police with another option to report a crime – including gun and gang violent – or alert authorities of criminal activity in their neighborhoods," according to J.R. Davis, Chairman and President of the Chicago Crime Commission. Davis added the crimes that can be reported include murder, sexual assault, gun violence, gang activity, hate crimes, as well as other violent or property crimes.

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Residents wanting to report a crime or suspicious activity can call the Hotline at 888-393-6646. Callers will be asked to leave detailed information on a voice recorder. From there, the Chicago Crime Commission will forward the information left on the voice recorder to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Callers will be directed to report crimes in progress directly to 911.

Out of concern with the recent hate crimes in the Chicago and neighboring communities, the Chicago Crime Commission is encouraging residents to use also the new number to report any hate crime they might have witnessed. “Violence against any American because of whom they are will not be tolerated,” stated Andrew Henning, General Counsel for the Chicago Crime Commission. Henning further added that this hotline will give witnesses an option to report hate crimes anonymously.

The Anonymous Crime Reporting Hotline is available to anyone in the Chicagoland area. “That being said, starting today, we are launching an extensive marketing campaign in the Auburn Gresham, North Lawndale, and Washington Park neighborhoods to make residents aware of and encourage them to use the Hotline” Henning concluded. The marketing effort includes a postcard being mailed directly to every household in those communities and an ongoing social media advertising campaign directed at users in those communities.

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