

# Texas Crime Stoppers Program



# Mission

Texas Crime Stoppers organizations are community-based partnerships formed by dedicated citizens, law enforcement, and the media. They work together toward a common goal: the reduction of crime and the arrest and conviction of criminals and fugitives statewide.

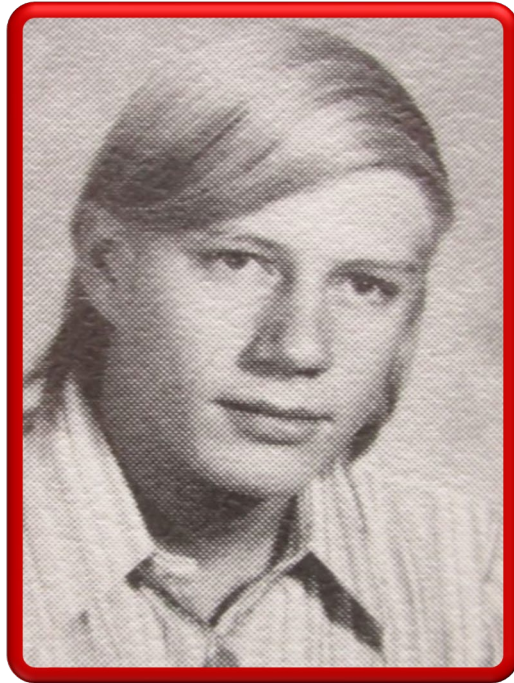
Local Crime Stoppers organizations are designed to serve as a vehicle for citizens to relay criminal information to law enforcement agencies while remaining ANONYMOUS.



# Goals

1. Anonymity
2. Establishing a reward system that compensates anonymous tipsters for information that helps solve crimes.
3. Encourage strong relationships with community, media, and law enforcement partners.
4. Statewide programs.

# History



- Michael Carmen 20 years old.
- College student.
- Volunteered to work double shift for a friend.
- Would have been married in two weeks.

Albuquerque, New Mexico  
1976

July 24, 1976

2:30 a.m.

Horn Gas Station







# Apathy & fear



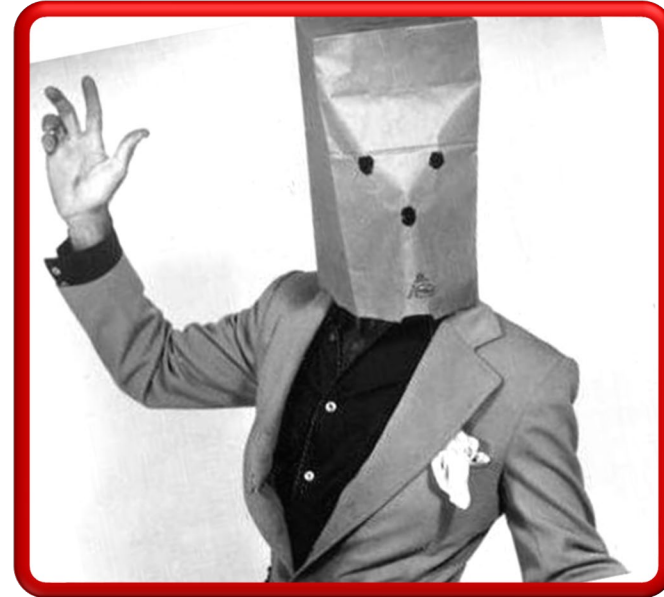
- Afraid of media exposure
- Afraid of the courtroom experience
- Leave it up to someone else
- Afraid of retaliation

# COUNTERING APATHY & FEAR

**Cash to overcome apathy**



**Anonymity to overcome fears**





# ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 1976

- 1<sup>st</sup> call – a one-year-old gang rape identifying three suspects.
- 6<sup>th</sup> call – disclosed information about a robbery identifying suspects.
- Two months after the murder, suspects arrested.



# CRIME STOPPERS TRIAD





# THE CONCEPT SPREAD

- July 1977, Central Florida Crime Watch's six county program began and recovered \$4,000,000 in stolen property it's first year
- September 1978, programs were created in:
  - Durango, Colorado
  - El Paso, Texas
- 1979, 28 programs were operating in the United States
- 1981, Texas Crime Stoppers Council
- 2021, Texas Crime Stoppers Campus Programs

# Texas Crime Stoppers Council



## PRIMARY FUNCTIONS:

- **Promoting** local Crime Stoppers organizations.
- **Encouraging** the formation of new organizations both in communities and on campuses.
- **Advising & Assisting** Crime Stoppers organizations.
- **Certifying** that organizations comply with state statutory requirements.



# Texas Crime Stoppers

## Chapter 414, Texas Government Code

- Chapter 414 of the Government Code authorizes the creation of the Texas Crime Stoppers Council and the duties to be performed by the Council and staff.
- Five members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.
- This law is applicable to both communities and campus programs.
- Details can be found at [www.thetexascrimestoppers.org](http://www.thetexascrimestoppers.org)



# Texas crime stoppers state team

- Manages certification requirements of approximately 150 organizations
- Administers grants under the Crime Stoppers Assistance Fund (CSAF).
- Provides technical and operational assistance statewide.
- Biannual & Annual reporting: Programmatic, Statistical data and Probation Fees
- Training & Conferences
- Statewide program expansion to different counties and into schools across the state
- Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program



# Texas Most Wanted Programs

In addition to these duties, Sec. 414.005 of the Texas Government Code authorizes specialized state-wide programs:

- Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitives & Sex Offenders
- Texas Stash House Rewards Program
- Texas Fallen Heroes Reward Program
- Texas Criminal Illegal Immigrants Reward Program
- Unique Incidents Rewards

# Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitives & Sex Offenders

## Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitives

To be eligible for the cash rewards, posters must provide information to authorities using one of the following methods:  
 - Call the Texas Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-TIPS (8477)  
 - Submit a web tip through the Texas 10 Most Wanted website or Facebook page - Submit a tip through the DPS Mobile App  
 All tips are anonymous - regardless of how they are submitted, and posters will be provided a tip number instead of using a name  
 Caution: anonymity is guaranteed by law and you could earn up to the CASH REWARD amount listed for each fugitive.  
 These fugitives should be considered Armed and Dangerous! Never try to apprehend a fugitive yourself!

 <b>Raul Herrera, Jr.</b> White (Hispanic) Male 11/4/1971, 5'8", 190lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Aggravated Sexual Assault, Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon, Assault Causes Bodily Injury, And Violation Of Bond/Probation Order <b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon, Aggravated Sexual Assault, Assault Causes Bodily Injury, Fugue In Place, OIA Pretext, Poss. Of Cocaine <b>Last Known Address:</b> Mckin, Texas <b>Up To \$7,500 Reward</b>	 <b>Christopher Joshua Garay</b> White (Hispanic) Male 4/7/1989, 5'7", 250lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon, Parole Violation (Original Offense), Aggravated Robbery (2nd Subsequent) <b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Assault, Burglary Of Vehicle, Unlawful Carrying Of Weapon, Theft Of Property, Possession Of Marijuana <b>Last Known Address:</b> Abilene, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Arthur Dewayne Carson</b> Black Male 2/25/1961, 5'7", 210lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Aggravated Robbery, Parole Violation (Original Offense), Robbery, Possession Of A Controlled Substance <b>Criminal History:</b> Attempted Murder, Aggravated Robbery, Robbery, Kidnap, Arrest, Carrying Prohibited Weapon, Receiving Other, Burglary Of A Habitation <b>Last Known Address:</b> Austin, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Spencer Alexander Smith</b> White Male 1/16/1990, 5'9", 160lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child (2) <b>Criminal History:</b> Burglary Of Habitation, Bail Jumping And Failure To Appear, Fugitive From Justice, Possession Of Marijuana, Theft Of Property <b>Last Known Address:</b> Livingston, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Dewarren Donta Knowles</b> Black Male 9/11/1987, 5'9", 170lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Sexual Assault Of A Child <b>Criminal History:</b> Assault Causes Bodily Injury, Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member, Children, Contact Charge/Child Pretext, Evading Arrest/Detention, Possession Of A Firearm <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>
 <b>Zaid Faez Rashid</b> White Male 7/12/1976, 6'0", 165lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Aggravated Assault Causes Serious Bodily Injury (2), Criminal Violence Against The Family, Burglary Of A Habitation With Intent To Commit Other Felony <b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Assault, Assault Causes Bodily Injury, Burglary Of A Habitation With Intent To Commit Other Felony <b>Last Known Address:</b> Trinity Oak, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Eneke Christopher Nathan</b> Black Male 6/9/1979, 6'0", 200lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Murder <b>Criminal History:</b> Murder, Aggravated Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Battery Of Registered Person, Possession Of Firearm By Felon <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Luis Alberto Becerra</b> White (Hispanic) Male 2/17/1996, 5'6", 140lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Aggravated Robbery <b>Criminal History:</b> Assault Family/Spouse/Member, Impeding Breath/Circulation, Engaging In Organized Criminal Activity, Strangling, Arrest/Detention With A Vehicle <b>Last Known Address:</b> Rowlett, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Antonio Quinonez</b> White (Hispanic) Male 6/23/2006, 5'9", 140lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Criminal Molestation Of Minors, Parents, Agg. Assault With A Deadly Weapon (2), Agg. Assault With A Weapon - Brand Injury/Offense, Engaging In Organized Criminal Activity <b>Criminal History:</b> N/A <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Stephen Joseph Vess</b> White Male 8/3/1995, 5'11", 140lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Sexual Assault Of A Child, Possession Of Child Pornography <b>Criminal History:</b> Sexual Assault Of A Child <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>

## Texas 10 Most Wanted Sex Offenders

To be eligible for the cash rewards, posters must provide information to authorities using one of the following methods:  
 - Call the Texas Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-TIPS (8477)  
 - Submit a web tip through the Texas 10 Most Wanted website or Facebook page - Submit a tip through the DPS Mobile App  
 All tips are anonymous - regardless of how they are submitted, and posters will be provided a tip number instead of using a name  
 Caution: anonymity is guaranteed by law and you could earn up to the CASH REWARD amount listed for each fugitive.  
 These fugitives should be considered Armed and Dangerous! Never try to apprehend a fugitive yourself!

 <b>Cecil Colby Smith</b> Black Male 5/6/1962, 6'0", 165lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Register As A Sex Offender, Child Abuse By Injury <b>Criminal History:</b> Murder, Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Sexual Assault Of A Child, Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon, Deadly Conduct <b>Last Known Address:</b> Dallas, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Marcos Christopher Alonzo</b> White (Hispanic) Male 10/7/1977, 5'11", 250lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements <b>Criminal History:</b> Incestory With A Child By Contact, Assault Causes Bodily Injury/Family Violence Enhancement, Escape From Custody, Burglary Of Building <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Louis Ray Keston</b> Black Male 10/29/1963, 6'3", 175lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements <b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Robbery, Aggravated Sexual Assault, Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member, Forgery Of A Financial Instrument, Poss. Of CS <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Robert Gonzales</b> White (Hispanic) Male 11/27/1976, 5'7", 155lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements <b>Criminal History:</b> Capital Murder, Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon, Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Aggravated Assault, Deadly Arms/Offense <b>Last Known Address:</b> Waco, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Cesar Soto-Bolanos</b> White (Hispanic) Male 2/11/1996, 5'8", 130lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Sexual Assault (2), Incestory With A Child By Exposure, Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements, Failure To Identify, Possession Of Marijuana <b>Criminal History:</b> Incestory With A Child By Exposure, Possession Of Marijuana, Failure To Identify <b>Last Known Address:</b> Embury, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>
 <b>Gregory Jan Pecina, Jr.</b> White (Hispanic) Male 6/1/1964, 5'9", 180lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Register As A Sex Offender, Agg. Assault Causes Serious Bodily Injury, Agg. Robbery, Kidnapping, Parole Violation (Original Offense, Agg. Sexual Assault Of A Child) <b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Sexual Assault Of A Child, Sexual Assault Causes Bodily Injury <b>Last Known Address:</b> Grand Prairie, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Antonio Ryan Sims</b> Black Male 10/27/1960, 5'8", 180lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements <b>Criminal History:</b> Sexual Assault Of A Child, Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements, Burglary Of Habitation, Theft Of Property <b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Salomon Olivas Marquez</b> White (Hispanic) Male 10/6/1963, 5'9", 150lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements With Previous Conviction <b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Incestory With A Child By Sexual Contact, Incestory With A Child By Exposure, Failure To Comply <b>Last Known Address:</b> Ocala, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>Joey Ray Gonzalez</b> White (Hispanic) Male 5/24/1966, 5'8", 165lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Comply With Sex Offender Registration Requirements <b>Criminal History:</b> Sexual Assault Of A Child, Failure To Register As A Sex Offender, Theft Of Property <b>Last Known Address:</b> Fort Worth, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b>	 <b>John Edward Ashley</b> White Male 11/24/1968, 5'4", 125lbs. <b>Wanted For:</b> Failure To Register As A Sex Offender, Possession Violation (Original Offense, Sexual Assault Of A Child) <b>Criminal History:</b> Sexual Assault Of A Child <b>Last Known Address:</b> Fort Worth, Texas <b>Up To \$2,000 Reward</b>



# Texas Criminal Illegal Immigrants

## Texas 10 Most Wanted Criminal Illegal Immigrants

To be eligible for the cash rewards, tipsters must provide information to authorities using one of the following methods:











• Call the Texas Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-3757 (8477)

• Submit a web tip through the Texas 10 Most Wanted website or Facebook page • Submit a tip through the DPS Mobile App

All tips are anonymous – regardless of how they are submitted, and tipsters will be provided a tip number instead of using a name.

Callers' anonymity is guaranteed by law and you could earn up to the CASH REWARD amount listed for each fugitive.

These fugitives should be considered Armed and Dangerous! Never try to apprehend a fugitive yourself!

<p><b>Luis Perez Mendoza</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 11/13/1980, 5'9", 160lbs. Wanted For: Indecency With A Child By Sexual Contact, Probation Violation (Original Charge, Assault Of A Public Servant)</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Assault, Terrorist Threat, Assault Public Servant, Injury To Child/Elderly/Disabled, Pe Entry After Deportation, Alien Removal</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Corpus, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Francisco Alexis Ventura</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 1/1/1959, 5'2", 160lbs. Wanted For: Sex Abuse Of Child Contributing Victim Under 14</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Sex Abuse Of Child Contributing Victim Under 14, Driving While Intoxicated, Deportation Proceedings</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Irving, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Octavio Cruz Hernandez</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 3/22/1992, 5'9", 145lbs. Wanted For: Sex Abuse Of A Child Contributing Victim Under 14</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Driving While Intoxicated With Child Under 15, Child Abandon/Endanger Child Involvement, Danger Of Bodily Injury, Possession Of Controlled Sub</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Crisp Springs, Texas <b>Up To \$5,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Oscar David Zelaya</b> <i>Featured Fugitive</i></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 5/31/1994, 6'1", 160lbs. Wanted For: Sexual Assault, Terrorist Threat, Obstruction/Retaliation</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Terrorist Threat/Intimidate, Public Peace, Obstruction/Retaliation, Failure To Comply With Requests Of Officer, Child, Alien Inadmissibility</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Spring, Texas <b>Up To \$4,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Wilean Alexander Berrios Ulloa</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 3/0/1985, 5'7", 150lbs. Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Burglary Of Habitation With Intent To Commit Other Felony</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Driving While Intoxicated, Alien Removal</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Austin, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b></p>
<p><b>Jose Miguel Zelaya-Ponce</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 9/25/2003, 6'0", 170lbs. Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child Under 14</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Alien Removal</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Salvador Cortez Vasquez</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 8/20/1992, 5'7", 160lbs. Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Sexual Assault Of A Child</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Solicit Prostitution/Other Payer, Alien Penalties/Removal, Fee Or Money Trans, Alien Inadmissibility</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Clewiston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Jorge Dionicio Hernandez</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 4/22/1991, 5'3", 130lbs. Wanted For: Indecency With Child By Sexual Contact</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Driving While Intoxicated, Driver License Of False, Alien Removal</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Houston, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Oscar Oswaldo Madrid Cartagena</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 6/15/1987, 5'8", 150lbs. Wanted For: Sexual Assault</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Sexual Assault, Alien Inadmissibility</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> Marshall, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b></p>	<p><b>Gilberto Castro Zubiate</b></p>  <p>White (Hispanic) Male 4/17/1996, 5'9", 235lbs. Wanted For: Attempt To Commit Smuggling Of Persons For Pecuniary Benefit (AZ)</p> <p><b>Criminal History:</b> Smuggling Of Persons For Pecuniary Benefit, Illegal Entry, Entry Without Inspection</p> <p><b>Last Known Address:</b> El Paso, Texas <b>Up To \$3,000 Reward</b></p>



## Texas Stash House Rewards

- Combat transnational crime, human trafficking, drug smuggling, and human smuggling

## Texas Fallen Hero Rewards

- Cold-cases, unsolved law enforcement related cases

## Unique Rewards

- Explosive packages case, US Border Patrol ambush, UT Austin homicide case, Shooting death of 8-year-old Houston girl, Deputy Greenwood, Baytown homicide case, I-35 rock throwing incidents, Governor's Mansion fire, State of Texas Capitol Riots



How it works



## 1. Tip Reporting

- a) Tips can be submitted via hotline, mobile app, or website.
- b) Tipster is assigned a tip identification number.

## 2. Rewards Paid

- a) A pay scale is pre-determined by each organization.
- b) Board of Directors votes to confirm information and payment amount .
- c) Tipster is paid out at a secure location.
- d) For the DPS programs, tips are paid out via purchase requisition to local Crime Stoppers organizations who coordinate with anonymous tipster on a pickup location.

Type of Crime / Fugitive	▼
Description: (including... Who, What, When, Where and How Do You Know) *	
<input type="text"/>	
Offense Type *	
▼	
Address of Incident	
<input type="text"/>	
County	City, State (required) *
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Nearest Intersection or Crossing Street	
<input type="text"/>	
Neighborhood or Subdivision	
<input type="text"/>	
Directions to Location	
<input type="text"/>	
How did you hear about our program?	
▼	
Links to any online news stories you are reporting in reference to. (copy/paste the URL if possible)	
<input type="text"/>	
Additional Information ▼	
School Related & Bullying ▼	
Wanted/Fugitive ▼	Number Involved: 1 ▼
Suspect ▼	Suspects Involved: 1 ▼
Vehicle ▼	Vehicles Involved: 1 ▼
Drugs ▼	
Abuse ▼	
Weapons ▼	
File Upload ▼	

Benefits



- ANONYMOUS Tip Reporting
- Increased Crime Solving
- Community Engagement
- **Educational Outreach**
- Partnership with Media



# What can be reported

Crimes that can be reported include but are not limited to:

- Animal Cruelty
- Arson
- Assaultive Offenses
- Burglary/Robbery/Theft
- Child Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Weapons
- Elder Abuse
- Fraud/Forgery
- Murder/Homicide
- Sex Crimes
- Terroristic Threats
- Trafficking



# Campus crime reports

Crimes that can be reported include but are not limited to:

- Abuse
- Bullying
- Burglary/Robbery/Theft
- Drugs
- E-Cigarettes
- Gang Activity
- Weapons
- Harassment
- Teen Dating Violence
- Threats
- Self-Harm
- Sexual Misconduct
- Vandalism



**Statistics**





# 2023 TEXAS CRIME STOPPERS COMMUNITY IMPACT

**492**  
# of guns RECOVERED

**\$7,280,387**  
\$ of stolen property RECOVERED

**\$1,029,566**  
Rewards PAID

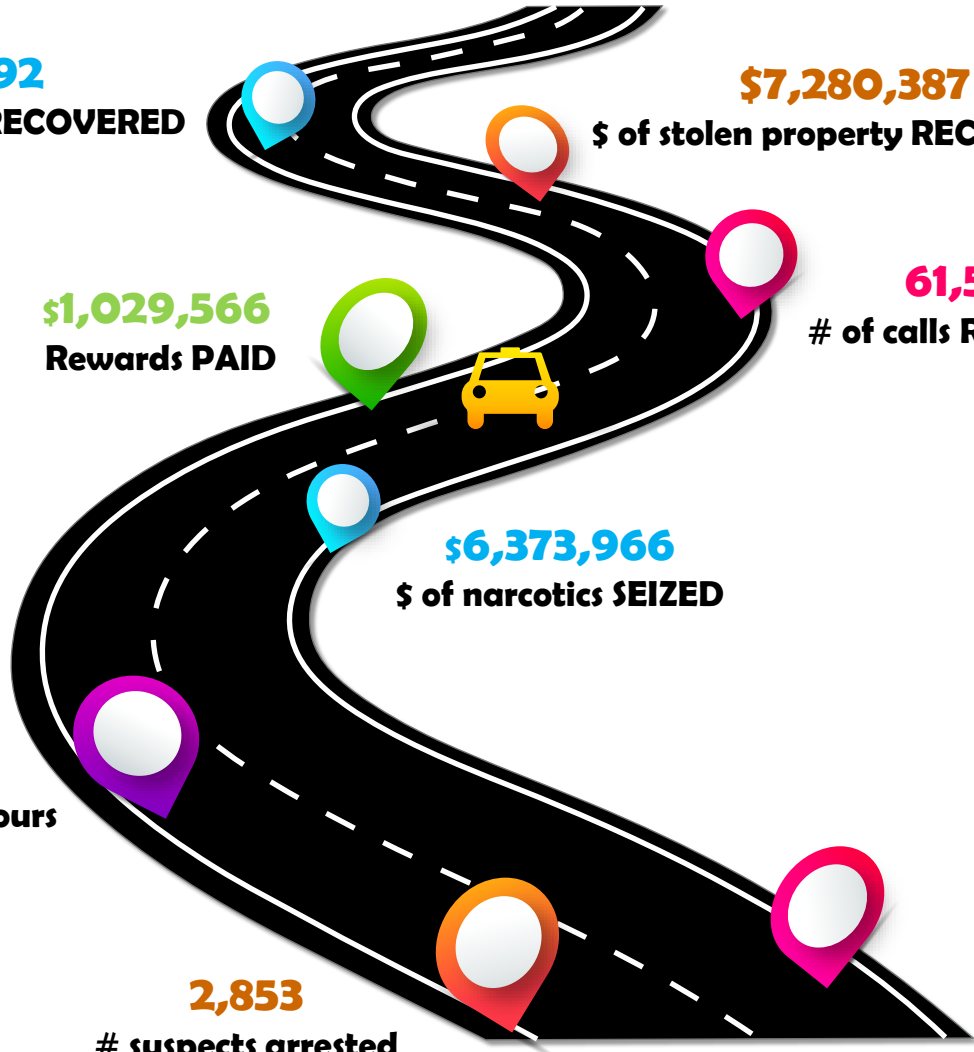
**61,512**  
# of calls RECEIVED

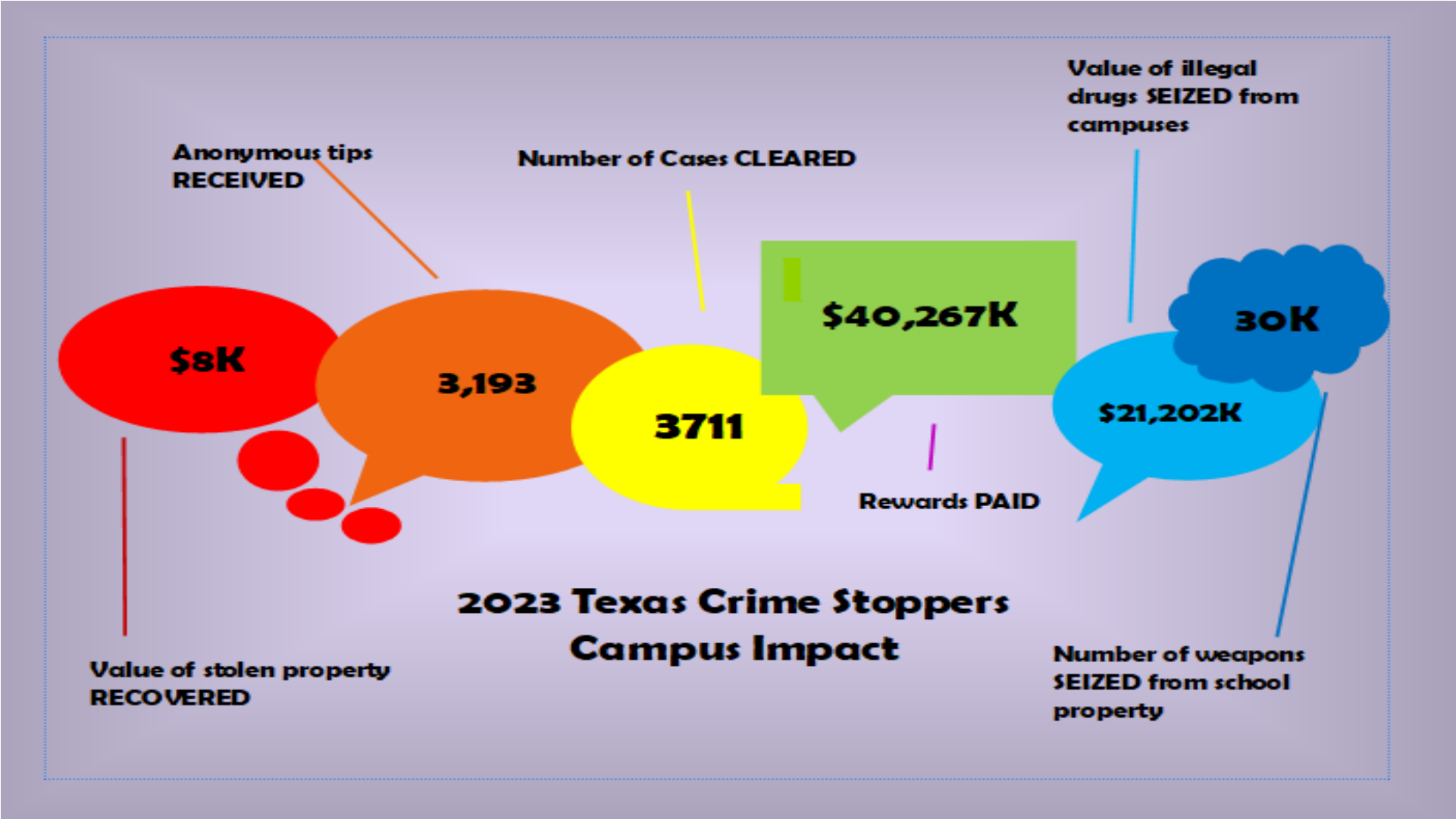
**\$6,373,966**  
\$ of narcotics SEIZED

**36,747**  
# of volunteer hours worked

**4,343**  
# of cases CLEARED

**2,853**  
# suspects arrested





**THANK YOU!**

[www.thetexascrimestoppers.org](http://www.thetexascrimestoppers.org)