

MUSKINGUM COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS WATCH MEMBERSHIP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policies:

- 1) Watch Members use Crime Prevention to reduce crimes.
- 2) Watch members are the eyes and ears of Law Enforcement.
- 3) Watch members use the proper observation reporting forms and procedures listed.
- 4) Watch members DO NOT approach or confront ANY criminal or criminal activity.
- 5) Watch Members are not vigilantes and do not act as such.
- 6) Watch Members who use confrontation actions, will be reviewed by their Area Captain and/or Coordinator and can be removed from their Watch program for said actions.
- 7) Watch members DO NOT show and/or give personal or private information pertaining to members, security codes, and activities to non-members.
 - a. Members can give proposed new members the next meeting date, time, and location.
 - b. Any member who causes the security and safety of another member to be compromised will be reviewed by the MC Board of Directors, and can be removed from office, and/or lose membership rights.
- 8) Area members do not require criminal background checks because they will not have access to private and/or personal member information.
 - a. Area Members may be subject to a Criminal Background Check if viewed as necessary by their Area Captain and/or Coordinator.
- 9) All members must present their name, address, and communication methods to be used to contact them.
 - b. Area Captains will verify information.
- 10) All membership information is private, and only can be used for Muskingum County Crime Stoppers Watch Program purposes only.

Procedures:

- 1) Reporting Procedure
 - a. Area Members report to their Area Captain and/or Law Enforcement
 - b. Area Captains report to Law Enforcement
 - c. Posting on Facebook is permitted.
- 2) MCCSW members who report any suspicious activity use Observation Forms.
- 3) The above reporting structure is to be used by all members. Unless it is an emergency, then report to 911 immediately.
- 4) The reporting structure is used to ensure Law Enforcement is not overwhelmed with telephone calls, which are not of emergency nature, which would not help them become more proactive. Local Law Enforcement can approve direct calls from members if they desire.
- 5) The Board of Directors governs all aspects of operations and ensures future success of MCCSW.
 - d. Reviews, amends, and improves policies and procedures.
 - e. Ensures member's observation reports are being addressed.

AMENDMENTS

These Policies and Procedures may be altered, amended, repealed, or added to by an affirmative vote of not less than seventy-five (75%) percent of the Board of Directors membership after applying Brain Storming and Problem Solving Techniques, unless waived by a majority vote because of an emergency.

A WATCHFUL EYE. A COUNTY WIDE.