



**Warren C. Evans**  
**Sheriff**

**CRIME STOPPERS**  
**1-800-SPEAK UP**  
ANONYMOUS TIP LINE CASH REWARDS

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Sheriff Evans and Crime Stoppers establish reward fund for tips leading to child exploitation arrests

- *Sheriff's Youth Fund to provide match money for guaranteed \$1,000 reward*
- *Crime Stoppers encourages people to call in anonymous tips at 1-800-SPEAK UP*

Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans and Crime Stoppers of Michigan have established a new reward fund designed to help shut down organized child exploitation rings, Evans and Crime Stoppers President John Broad announced today.

The joint announcement comes just a week after Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies and other local law enforcement agencies raided a house of prostitution allegedly being run by the mother of a 16-year-old girl found dancing semi-nude inside. In March, Evans' office led a similar raid on another Detroit home that involved two underage girls being used as prostitutes.

Under the new Stop Child Exploitation Reward Fund, anonymous tipsters who provide information that leads to the arrest of suspects involved in similar operations will receive a \$1,000 check.

Tips follow up on

"In both of the cases we have made this year, our tips came from the community, specifically from people who had advance knowledge of these sex parties, and felt compelled by their own conscience to come forward," Evans said. "Within just a few days of receiving those tips, we acted on them and were able to rescue several young girls from sexually exploitive situations."

John Broad, president of Crime Stoppers, says that child exploitation does not reflect who we are as a community and hopes that more people will help to stop crimes like this. "We receive tips everyday from people who want to make their neighborhoods safe," he said. "The 1-800-SPEAK UP tip line is completely anonymous from the time a tip is called in, to the payment of the cash reward."

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Because organized child exploitation occurs a lot more than anyone would like to think, Evans says, Crime Stoppers of Michigan and the Wayne County Sheriff's Youth & Senior Education Fund have stepped up to create the special reward fund.

Under its own program, Crime Stoppers takes tips to help solve various types of crimes depending in Metro Detroit and offers rewards of up to \$1,000, depending upon what the organization's reward court deems appropriate. Evans said his Youth Education Fund will match rewards offered by Crime Stoppers to guarantee that tipsters in cases that lead to the arrest of child exploitation suspects will receive a full \$1,000 reward.

"The police can't shut down operations like these without help from concerned citizens and we hope that the offer of a reward will bring more people forward," Evans said. "There are other young girls and boys being exploited and we need to find them. It is going to take all of us working together to stop child exploitation in our community."

The Sheriff's Youth & Senior Education fund is a private non-profit established to help advance the Sheriff's Office mission of providing for the protection and welfare of children and senior citizens in Wayne County.

Anyone with information about organized child exploitation activities should call Crime Stoppers at 1-800 SPEAK UP. All tips can be made anonymously.

### **About Crime Stoppers of Michigan**

Crime Stoppers of Michigan empowers people to make their neighborhoods, schools and businesses safer through anonymous reporting of crime. The Crime Stoppers anonymous tip line – 1-800-SPEAK UP – was created for citizens in Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, St. Clair, Monroe, Wayne and Washtenaw counties, who have witnessed or heard about a crime, but are too afraid to call the police out of fear of retaliation. As an incentive, anonymous tipsters can receive a reward up to \$1,000 if there's an arrest based on their information. In the last 12 months, more than 3200 tips were called in, leading to about 700 arrests.