

METRO DENVER

CRIME STOPPERS



POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

2020

... a year in review

2020 has been referred to as “the year that was”, however together, with our Law Enforcement partners on the local, state and Federal level, along with our all-volunteer board of directors, our media partners and, of course the members of our communities, Metro Denver Crime Stoppers has continued to provide a valuable program that was designed to support our community leaders in keeping our communities safe during these times.

On behalf of the board of directors, we offer our warmest holiday wishes to you and those that you hold dear and as we move to 2021, we would like to remind everyone that we remain committed to increasing the safety of the Metro Denver community and we are looking forward to your continued support.

Highlights

- In 2019, the MDCS Executive Board established a **Liaison Program**. This program was designed to provide clear and consistent communication and a single point of contact for our law enforcement partners and advisory board members and throughout 2020 we have continued to expand this program to provide mentorship to our internal board members as well as our NextGen board members.
- All current MDCS and NextGen board members have been tasked to complete a **Nonprofit Board Members Course** that was established by the Colorado Secretary of State Office. This course was designed as a resource for current and aspiring nonprofit board members and addresses important aspects of being an effective and responsible nonprofit director.
- Each year, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce hosts a luncheon to celebrate the communities **Unsung Heroes** and in 2020, MDCS Executive Board Member, Secretary Sarah Feldman Johnston was honored to be selected as a finalist.
- **Special Reward Cases** are cases in which the community (typically families & friends of victims) commit additional funds to offer as an award. In 2020 we have seen a net increase of over \$93,000.00 in donations related to Special Reward Cases, bringing our total to just under \$200,000.00 in special awards funds being held.

- Tips Received: 5008
- Cases Cleared: 382
- Arrests Made: 156
- Agencies/Departments: 137
- Rewards Paid: 164
- Rewards Approved: \$70,700.00
- Rewards Collected: \$43,200.00
- Volunteers: Over 250 volunteers and over 5,000 volunteer hours

Over 61% of the rewards approved were collected and just over 34% of the tipsters collected reward monies approved.

- **Supplemental Reward Cases** are cases that the law enforcement community has requested the reward amount be increased in an effort to further engage the community in assisting to solve a particular crime. Throughout the year, MDCS has committed over \$50,000.00 in additional funds to help solve these crimes.

Cold Cases & More....

1980 – Douglas County Homicide & Sexual Assault – this case was the first case solved by the newly established familial genetic DNA program. This case involved the death of Helene Pruszynski and resulted in the arrest, conviction and sentencing of James Curtis Clanton.

1981 – Jefferson County Homicide – this case utilized the familial genetic DNA program to assist in the identification of Donald Perea as the suspect of homicide victim – Jeannie Moore.

1993 – Douglas County Homicide – this case utilized the familial genetic DNA program to assist in the identification of a Jane Doe homicide victim – Rebecca Ann Redeker.

1996 – Aurora Homicide - this case involved the murder of Tangie Simms.

2002 – Arvada Sexual Assault – this case assisted in the identification of Brent Bloomquist as the suspect and resulted in his arrest.



The Next Generation

The NextGen board was established in an effort to engage the next generation youth in participating in the Metro Denver Crime Stoppers board of directors by providing mentorship and guidance to youth who have shown an active interest in the public safety community. To date, we have 10 active high-school and college aged board members and an advisory board that consists of four MDCS board members.

In 2020, this impressive group has continued the efforts of establishing a working board by holding monthly meetings, establishing an executive board and developing programs, such as a **Virtual Blood Drive** to aide during the pandemic and establishing the **NextGen Scholarship** that resulted in seven scholarships being awarded in the amount of \$17,500.00.




HUNTER B.

- Major in Sociology with and emphasis on Criminal Justice
- Colorado State University
- My Career Objective: I am excited to join a local law enforcement agency after college, and to hopefully, one day, join the ranks of the FBI.

SAMUEL B.

- Computer Engineering
- Colorado State University
- My Career Objective: Law Enforcement




BLAKE S.

- Biology/BioMed
- Currently applying to multiple colleges
- My Career Objective: Forensic Scientist or Medical Examiner



MIA F.

- Journalism and Media
- Rutgers University, University of Missouri, Humboldt University
- My Career Objective: My goal is to bring objectivity to the media, rather than editorialized reporting.



LEXIE S.

- Criminal Justice
- CU Denver, MSU Denver, and San Diego State University
- My Career Objective: To become an intelligence analyst at a federal agency such as the DEA or Homeland Security

NORA S.

- Psychology and Sociology
- Regis University
- My Career Objective: Help victims of sexual abuse



ELEANOR "ELLIE" W.

- Communications: Public Relations and Civic Engagement
- Regis University
- My Career Objective: Public Information Officer for Local Police Department



Money Matters

There has been no other year in recent history that has shown that Money Matters, like 2020. Non-profit organizations throughout the world have been significantly impacted when it comes to the generous donations of the public and unfortunately MDCS has been impacted this year as well, however thanks to a great volunteer board, an advisory board that is comprised of over 40 different law enforcement agencies and with our great partnerships within the community, MDCS has fared far better than other non-profits and for this we will be forever grateful.

Fiduciary responsibility has always been at the forefront of our mission – we strive each year to ensure that every single dollar donated is fully maximized and with some great leadership and foresight we were able increase our Charles Schwab investment account by over 7.5% to help offset the reduction in general donations received this year.

Fundraising Efforts:

- Northglenn Shred-a-thon – An annual shred event hosted by the Northglenn Police Department and New Horizons Credit Union.
- Jefferson County Shred-a-thon – An annual shred event hosted by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.
- Arapahoe County Shred-a-thon – An annual shred event hosted by the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office.
- Westminster Shred-a-thon – An annual shred event hosted by the Westminster Police Department.
- FOX31/KDVR Telethon – Our 1st Annual Telethon hosted by our media partner – KDVR.
- Arvada Bingo Night – Our 1st Annual Bingo Night hosted by the Arvada Police Department and ELKS.
- Denver Public Safety Luncheon – Annual luncheon to honor the public safety community in Denver.
- Waste Management Toy Drive – 1st Annual Toy Drive organized by Waste Management – this drive benefited the Douglas County Sheriff's Office – "Shop with a Cop", Jefferson County Sheriff's Office – KYGO Colorado Christmas Crusade for Children, and The Salvation Army Toy Drive.
- Amazon Smiles Program – Amazon donates a percentage of sales from smile.amazon.com to the user's favorite charitable organization (Metro Denver Crime Stoppers) at no cost to the user.

Friendships & Partnerships

We couldn't have made it through the year without our friends and partnerships; just to name a few:

- FOX31/KDVR
- Support the Shield
- Alpine Bank
- Iron Mountain
- Waste Management
- Charles Schwab
- Friends of Denver Fire Department
- Don & Laurie Hicks – Shortline Automotive
- Pat Hamill - Oakwood Homes
- Ronald & Carol Moore Family Foundation
- Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation

A Few Last Things...

Did you know?

- Any case is a Metro Denver Crime Stoppers case... A tipster can provide information on any open case – there doesn't have to be a crime alert issued by MDCS to be eligible for a reward or to remain anonymous – the tip must go through Metro Denver Crime Stoppers.
- All information released by Metro Denver Crime Stoppers comes from our law enforcement partners and has been fully vetted and approved for public distribution.
- Metro Denver Crime Stoppers is not a law enforcement agency, receives no government funding and has no investigative authority.
- Metro Denver Crime Stoppers and our anonymous tipsters are protected by Colorado Revised Statute 16-15.7-101.
- All tipsters are eligible for a **Reward of UP TO \$2,000.00**. Only in cases where there is a verified special award listed and/or supplemental monies committed will a tipster have the potential receive over \$2,000.00.
- All Special Reward and/or Supplemental funding monies do expire. The expiration date should be listed within the Crime Alert and/or Press Release.
- The wording of news stories, press releases and crime alerts matter and we need everyone's assistance in getting the information out to the public in a clear, concise and accurate manner by adhering to the following:
 - Whenever possible use the MDCS Crime Alert template and only replace the text and photos related directly to the case.
 - Please refrain from listing other tip line phone numbers and/or detective phone numbers within the Crime Alert or Press Release – this can cause great confusion and possibly put the tipster's identity at jeopardy.

We recommend the following wording when also promoting other tip lines and/or detective contact information; however, you can always reach out to a board member for assistance in wording:

Anyone with information please call Local Police 303 555 5555.

If you would like to remain anonymous and be eligible for a reward of up to \$2,000 you must contact Crime Stoppers 720 913 STOP (7867).

CALL METRO DENVER CRIME STOPPERS 720-913-STOP (7867)

To be eligible for the award and to remain anonymous, tipsters must call the crime stoppers **tip line.**