



CRIME STOPPERS

of Flint & Genesee County | 1-800-422-JAIL

Flint Crime Stoppers Takes Home Major Awards at National Conference

October 1, 2019, Flint, MI — Crime Stoppers of Flint and Genesee County and its director have been recognized for the work done to combat violent crime in the community.

Each year Crime Stoppers USA holds a training conference accompanied by an awards ceremony. At this year's conference, Crime Stoppers of Flint and Genesee County received two awards for the work the organization does to help solve crimes.

The first award was for the Print Public Service Announcement for a community with a population of 250,001 to 1,000,000. Crime Stoppers has partnered with Outfront Media to place billboards in high traffic areas and during awareness months. Some of those PSAs included "Lock Up Your Guns," "Lock Up Your Meds," and "Warning Signs of Human Trafficking."

"We are working hard to bring awareness to some very serious issues. A lot of thought and consideration was put into each billboard. Outfront Media did a great job in helping us deliver a clear message," said Julie Lopez, Director of Crime Stoppers.

Not only was the organization recognized for its hard work, but Lopez also received the 2019 Chairman's Award.

This award is given to a person who brings passion and dedication to their work.

Julie Lopez expressed, "It's an honor to be recognized by Crime Stoppers USA. I'm grateful for all of their support and guidance. I haven't done this work alone; my board of directors, staff and volunteers, sponsors, media partners, and law enforcement are always there to help. My family and my faith give me strength and patience."

Lopez received the award for her drive to ensure her program has funding, as well as engaging in new initiatives. She was also recognized for her work with CSUSA as the Region 7 Director and the work she has done with the national chapter's social media.

"In 2016, Julie Lopez from Crime Stoppers of Flint and Genesee County joined the CSUSA Board as Region 7 Director," said CSUSA Chairman Barb Bergin during the award presentation. "Her passion for Crime Stoppers was immediately evident as she played a significant role in beginning her local program."

This year's national conference was held in Tempe, Arizona. The annual conference held 37 training sessions that focused on best practices for Crime Stoppers organizations that included changes in the law, financial best practices, human trafficking, and best uses of social media. Crime Stoppers was pleased to have Chris Rawsthorne, Assistant US Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan and Agent Hank Impola, with the Federal Bureau of Investigation present a successful case in which a Crime Stoppers tip assisted law enforcement in a Human Trafficking Case in Flint, MI.

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The mission of Crime Stoppers is to partner with law enforcement, the media, and the community to help solve and prevent crime. It is an avenue for citizens to get information to law enforcement anonymously. Crime Stoppers of Flint & Genesee County is a 501c3, non-profit organization.