



National Crime Prevention Council Survey Reveals Fifty Seven Percent of Americans More Fearful of Crime

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Arlington, VA (Vocus) -- More than 57 percent of Americans report being more fearful of crime due to the economic downturn, according to a survey by the [National Crime Prevention Council](#) (NCPC) and the Stewart and Partners research firm.

This finding underscores the need for communities across the country to join the fight against crime through the [Celebrate Safe Communities](#) initiative presented by the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), NCPC, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice. All across the country communities will highlight solutions to local community crime troubles and highlight the need for stronger law enforcement-community partnerships to combat the rise in crime that is occurring in numerous cities across the United States.

The Celebrate Safe Communities initiative will help kick off October as Crime Prevention Month, an annual celebration. Beginning October 1-3, 2009, communities across the country will host crime prevention events in neighborhoods, with schools, and in collaboration with local businesses. In its first year, more than 160 communities in 36 states and the District of Columbia sparked new local crime initiatives, joined or started Neighborhood Watch programs, provided safety tips and information, and generated awareness for public safety solutions through their partnership with the Celebrate Safe Communities initiative.

In mid-October NCPC, NSA, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance will host an event in partnership with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to illustrate how communities coming together make the difference in preventing crime and violence.

NSA and NCPC together have more than 90 years of experience in preventing crime and mobilizing communities, most notably through their tireless efforts to expand citizen involvement in their local neighborhoods. The Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice, is a long-standing supporter of efforts to increase public safety and educate residents about crime prevention. BJA is providing resources and assistance for the Celebrate Safe Communities project.

Together the three organizations will apply that knowledge and long-standing relationship to bring together businesses, residents, and law enforcement to coordinate local crime prevention events beginning October 1, 2009, and throughout the year.

About the National Crime Prevention Council

The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) is a private, nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to be the nation's leader in helping people keep themselves, their families, and their communities safe from crime.



NCPC manages public service advertising under the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign--symbolized by McGruff the Crime Dog® and his "Take A Bite Out Of Crime®" slogan--and acts as secretariat for the Crime Prevention Coalition of America, more than 400 national, federal, state, and local organizations representing thousands of constituents who are committed to preventing crime. NCPC is funded through a variety of government agencies, corporate and private foundations, and donations from private individuals. For more information on crime prevention issues, visit www.ncpc.org.

About the National Sheriffs' Association

The [National Sheriffs' Association](http://www.usaonwatch.org) (NSA), now in its 68th year, is an organization comprised of 3,084 sheriffs and a membership of over 20,000. NSA is dedicated to raising the level of professionalism in the public safety field. Since its inception, NSA has developed many programs for law enforcement and citizens such as Neighborhood Watch, Triad, and Business Watch. Since 1972, NSA has managed the Neighborhood Watch program and has acted as the primary source for information and technical assistance for local law enforcement agencies on Neighborhood Watch. As the national authority on Neighborhood Watch, NSA plays a vital role in the development and dissemination of training and resources for LEAs to use in training their individual Watch Groups and officers. NSA is trusted by law enforcement and has a long history of representing the nation's sheriffs. For more information on NSA programs and Neighborhood Watch, visit www.usaonwatch.org and www.sheriffs.org .

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