

## HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES:

Although association documents set forth rules intended to foster peaceful, harmonious living, only those provisions that address the actual physical conditions of the properties are enforceable by the association. Homeowners' associations are not chartered to, nor do they have the jurisdiction or authority to mediate or to act as law enforcement in civil or criminal matters.



**Civil nuisance matters (including those involving noise and inadequate pet maintenance), criminal matters, trespassing, traffic matters, parking of vehicles on county-owned roads, etc. must be addressed with the appropriate county agencies. Only designated representatives of such agencies as Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Hillsborough County Code Enforcement, Hillsborough County Animal Control, etc. have the jurisdiction and authority to act in such matters.**



**County agencies have made it clear that they do not want to receive such notifications from management. They require first-hand information from the parties that are personally experiencing a nuisance. You should contact the appropriate county agency so that it may assist you with your concern.**

In many cases, residents have found it can be effective to deal with matters of this nature by contacting Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and asking to be referred to your community's Community Resource Deputy. The deputy who is specifically assigned to your community usually has more of a vested interest in such matters than does the desk sergeant who answers the telephone at the police station and can sometimes offer unique solutions based on the specific problem you are encountering. County officials have made it clear to us that they do not accept reports from anyone other than the person with first-hand knowledge of an offense, so we are unable to assist you by contacting these agencies.



Another conflict resolution option available to Hillsborough County residents, it to file a mediation request with the Southshore Community Justice Center (a free mediation service offered by the 13th Judicial Circuit). If you wish to learn more about the free services available to Hillsborough County residents, you may review the information on their website at:



<http://www.fljud13.org/CourtPrograms/MediationDiversionServices/CommunityMediation.aspx>

The form needed to request a mediation may be found at:

<http://www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Forms/pdfs/COMMUNITYREQUESTForm.pdf>

## REPORTING SUSPICIOUS OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES:



**YOUR ASSOCIATION HAS NO AUTHORITY OR JURISDICTION TO RESOLVE THESE TYPES OF ISSUES.**

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office has established CrimeStoppers - a quicker, more effective way to report crime than calling the non-emergency HCSO number. Call 1-800-873-TIPS (8477) where a CrimeStoppers Coordinator will take the information, complete the tips form, make initial inquiries, and then pass the information to the investigating law enforcement officer. You will remain anonymous and they are able to act more quickly on your report.

**CALL (800) 873 –TIPS.** You make your initial report via telephone where you will be asked a series of questions (some of which provide information that you would not have even thought to provide). You will be assigned a tracking number that will allow you to add details any time via email on [www.crimestopperstb.com](http://www.crimestopperstb.com) or via phone. If you think of something new or witness additional activity, you can add it at any time – day or night - and it is added to your initial complaint – something that does not occur when you call the desk sergeant.

HCSO deputies **STRONGLY** encourage people to report through CrimeStoppers rather than calling the desk sergeant because you can continue to add pertinent information such as: color/make/model of a suspicious vehicle, address it may visit and for how long it visits, descriptions of people coming and going, etc. Deputies have told us that the feature that allows any number of people to report/add subsequent information to complaints has enabled them to "tie reported incidents together" and to locate people and vehicles that they might not have been able to locate otherwise.