

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund;
 3 amending s. 16.555, F.S.; authorizing a county that is
 4 awarded a grant from the trust fund to use such funds
 5 for the purchase and distribution of promotional
 6 items; making technical changes; providing an
 7 effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 16.555, Florida
 12 Statutes, is amended to read:

13 16.555 Crime Stoppers Trust Fund; rulemaking.—

14 (5) (a) The department shall be the disbursing authority
 15 for the distribution of funding to units of local government
 16 ~~which apply, upon their application~~ to the department for
 17 funding assistance.

18 (b) Funds deposited in the trust fund pursuant to
 19 paragraph (4) (b) shall be disbursed as provided in this
 20 paragraph. A ~~Any~~ county may apply to the department under s.
 21 938.06 for a grant from the funds collected in the judicial
 22 circuit in which the county is located ~~under s. 938.06~~. A grant
 23 may be awarded only to counties that ~~which~~ are served by an
 24 official member of the Florida Association of Crime Stoppers and
 25 may ~~only~~ be used only to support Crime Stoppers and its ~~their~~
 26 crime fighting programs. Only one such official member is ~~shall~~

27 ~~be~~ eligible for support within any county. ~~In order~~ To aid the
28 department in determining eligibility, the secretary of the
29 Florida Association of Crime Stoppers shall furnish the
30 department with a schedule of authorized crime stoppers programs
31 and shall update the schedule as necessary. The department shall
32 award grants to eligible counties from available funds and shall
33 distribute funds as equitably as possible, based on amounts
34 collected within each county, if ~~when~~ more than one county is
35 eligible within a judicial circuit.

36 (c) A county that is awarded a grant under this section
37 may use such funds to purchase and distribute promotional items
38 to increase public awareness of, and to educate the public
39 about, Crime Stoppers.

40 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.