

By the Committees on Fiscal Resource; Comprehensive Planning,
Local and Military Affairs; and Senator Mitchell

314-2154-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Crime Stoppers funds;
3 creating s. 932.80, F.S.; specifying the
4 purposes for which special county trust fund
5 moneys may be expended by the Sheriff or other
6 law enforcement entity that operates a Crime
7 Stoppers program; amending s. 938.06, F.S.;
8 providing for the surcharge assessed as an
9 additional court cost to be deposited in the
10 special county trust funds for use as provided
11 in s. 932.80; repealing s. 16.555, F.S., which
12 provides for the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund in
13 the Department of Legal Affairs; providing for
14 the distribution of funds in the department's
15 trust fund; providing an effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Section 932.80, Florida Statutes, is
20 created to read:

21 932.80 Crime Stoppers funds.--

22 (1) All funds collected by the clerk of court under s.
23 938.06 shall be deposited into a special trust fund of the
24 county. Such moneys and interest accruing thereon, shall be
25 segregated in the special trust fund and may only be expended
26 for:

27 (a) Rewards for information leading to the arrest and
28 prosecution of persons who have committed, or are committing,
29 crimes;

30 (b) Community notification of the presence of sexual
31 predators, sexual offenders, or violent offenders;

1 (c) Crime prevention awareness;
2 (d) Publicity, advertisement, and promotion of Crime
3 Stoppers programs and services;
4 (e) Administrative costs of Crime Stoppers programs
5 receiving funds pursuant to subsection (2); and
6 (f) Starting a new Crime Stoppers program in counties
7 where none exists.
8 (2) In any county in which a Crime Stoppers program is
9 operated, the approval of the sheriff or the person in charge
10 of a county law enforcement agency and a majority of the
11 chiefs of police of municipalities within the county, in
12 consultation with the Florida Association of Crime Stoppers,
13 Inc., shall be required for the distribution of any funds
14 relating to s. 938.06 in the county's special trust fund.
15 These funds shall only be distributed to that Crime Stoppers
16 program for the purposes provided in subsection (1).
17 (3) If a Crime Stoppers program is not operated within
18 a county, the county may expend funds relating to s. 938.06 in
19 the special trust fund for the purposes provided in subsection
20 (1).
21 (4) In order to establish a multi-county Crime
22 Stoppers program, the sheriffs or persons in charge of county
23 law enforcement agencies and the municipal police chiefs in
24 two or more counties must agree to approve a single
25 multi-county Crime Stoppers program that will receive funds
26 related to s. 938.06 from the special trust funds of the
27 respective counties.
28 (5) To ensure compliance with this section, each Crime
29 Stoppers program receiving funds relating to s. 938.06 from a
30 county's special trust fund shall, at the county's option and
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1 at Crime Stoppers' expense, be subject to an annual audit of
2 expenditures of moneys from the special trust fund.

3 (6) For purposes of this section, the term "Crime
4 Stoppers" means a civilian, nonprofit organization under 26
5 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3).

6 Section 2. Section 938.06, Florida Statutes, is
7 amended to read:

8 938.06 Additional cost for crime stoppers programs.--

9 (1) In addition to any fine prescribed by law for any
10 criminal offense, there is ~~hereby~~ assessed as a court cost an
11 additional surcharge of \$20 on such fine, which shall be
12 imposed by all county and circuit courts and collected by the
13 clerks of the courts together with such fine. No political
14 subdivision shall be held liable for payment of costs under
15 this section.

16 (2) The clerk of the court shall collect and forward,
17 on a monthly basis, all costs assessed under this section,
18 less \$3 per assessment as a service charge to be retained by
19 the clerk, to a special trust fund in the county and invested
20 in the same manner as other funds ~~the Department of Legal~~
21 ~~Affairs for deposit in the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund to be~~
22 used as provided in s. 932.80 ~~s. 16.555.~~

23 Section 3. Section 16.555, Florida Statutes, as
24 amended by section 2 of chapter 98-319, Laws of Florida, is
25 repealed.

26 Section 4. All funds in the Department of Legal
27 Affairs' Crime Stoppers Trust Fund as of July 1, 1999, shall
28 be remitted to the counties where the funds were originally
29 collected and shall be deposited into each county's special
30 trust fund to be used as provided in section 932.80, Florida
31 Statutes.

1 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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3 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
5 CS/SB 1478

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This committee substitute clarifies the role of sheriffs and
municipal police chiefs in distributing Crime Stoppers funds
and forming multi-county Crime Stoppers programs.

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