



Suncoast Crime Prevention Association

8110 7th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Florida Crime Prevention Association Annual Awards Nomination Category A Outstanding Crime Prevention Association

Suncoast Crime Prevention Association

Address: 8110 7th St. North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Officers:

President	Nell Hays	Highlands County Sheriff's Office
Vice-President	Cynthia Sharp	Lakeland Police Department
Secretary	Lori J. Millard	Bradenton Police Department
Treasurer	Chip Wells	St. Petersburg Police Department

Board of Directors:

Alan Fifield	Manatee County Sheriff's Office
Neil Scully	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Robert Groover	Polk County Sheriff's Office

Geographical Area Covered:

Hillsborough, Pasco, Manatee, Sarasota, Polk, Pinellas, Highlands Counties

Website:

www.suncoastcrimeprevention.org

Agencies Represented in Suncoast:

Bartow Police Department, Bradenton Police Department, Highlands County Sheriff's Office, Hillsborough County Schools, Lakeland Police Department, Lake Placid Police Department, Largo Police Department, Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Palmetto Police Department, Pinellas County Schools Police, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Pinellas Park Police Department, Polk County Sheriff's Office, Sarasota Police Department, Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, St. Petersburg Police Department, Tampa Police Department, Tampa International Airport Police, Tarpon Springs Police Department, Temple Terrace Police Department, Wauchula Police Department, Winter Haven Police Department. Troy University and Ask The Seal are corporate members.

About Suncoast:

The Suncoast Crime Prevention Association, Inc. was established in 1976 by a handful of Crime Prevention Practitioners as an organization of law enforcement officers, crime prevention specialists, and business loss prevention and security experts dedicated to the ideas and promotion of crime prevention awareness throughout the Tampa Bay Area.



Suncoast Crime Prevention Association

8110 7th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Today, the association has grown and encompasses seven Bay Area counties with representatives from a majority of the law enforcement agencies in the area and is the oldest continuously established crime prevention association in the state.

Our goal is the education of our citizens and businesses in order to reduce crime. This goal is reinforced in the purpose of the organization as described in the By Laws and as follows:

- To develop and promote professional standards of ethics and competence in the field of crime prevention and promote crime prevention practice for the purpose of decreasing crime, the fear of crime and increasing the quality of life
- To review and discuss legislative bills regarding crime prevention and provide input to local and statewide legislators regarding bills
- To coordinate and maintain communications between law enforcement agencies and other interested parties regarding crime prevention
- To actively involve social service groups such as but not limited to non-profit organizations, commercial companies and law enforcement agencies in the prevention of crime.

Through the dedication of the Officers and Board of Directors and with the support of the members of the association, Suncoast has held monthly meetings throughout the year with the exception of January (Board Planning Month) and October (State Conference Month). In addition, the Board of Directors has met monthly with the exception of October (State Conference).

Suncoast conducts monthly membership meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at various sites in the counties covered by the organization, with the exception of January, which is a Board of Directors planning month, September, when the meeting is the Chief's and Sheriff's Appreciation Luncheon, and October which is the State Conference. Each meeting begins with the Pledge of Allegiance and follows a pre-printed agenda and Robert's Rules of Order. The meeting agenda includes approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting, a financial report, Officers and Board of Directors Reports, Old Business, New Business and Announcements. During the Reports Section, agencies represented by the Officers and Board of Directors present current crime trends within their jurisdictions and solicit input from other members in attendance on these challenges. The meeting is scheduled for one hour, with the training session to follow each month.

An ongoing goal of Suncoast is to raise attendance at monthly meetings and to provide training opportunities to agencies who may be struggling to provide this education. With more and more agencies dropping crime prevention units and moving this duty to patrol or community policing officers, the Suncoast Crime Prevention Association opted to provide economical training in various crime prevention topics for these agencies. For a nominal fee of \$25 per person, agencies could avail themselves of two hour training sessions once a month. If an agency participated in two trainings, they were considered members of Suncoast and received all additional two hour sessions at no charge.

Beginning in November 2011, Suncoast's monthly training program included the following presentations:



Suncoast Crime Prevention Association

8110 7th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

November 2011 Manatee County S.O.	Gang Training for Law Enforcement	Detective Gillum, Manatee County Sheriff's Office Gang Unit
December 2011 Lakeland P.D.	Forming Partnerships and Cops for Kids	CPP Cynthia Sharp, Lakeland Police Department
February 2012 Tampa P.D. Dist. I	Crime Prevention in the Faith Based Community	CPP Nell Hays, Highlands County Sheriff's Office
March 2012 Lakeland P.D.	Cyber Safety	Officer Chip Wells, St. Petersburg Police Dept.
April 2012 Hillsborough County Schools P.D.	Bullying Prevention	Officer Lawrence White, Hillsborough County Schools Police
May 2012 Manatee County S.O.	Ask The Seal Business Crime Prevention	Ask The Seal Personnel
June 2012 Tampa P.D. Dist. III	Frauds and Scams	Panel Discussion led by Officer L.J. Millard, Bradenton Police Dept.
July 2012 Polk County S.O.	Preventing Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation	Patricia Henderson, Area Agency on Aging
August 2012 Tampa P.D. Dist. II	Scrap Metal Theft	Detective Dan Hinsz, Tampa P.D.

In addition to these two hour training sessions, the Suncoast Crime Prevention Association presents a Chiefs and Sheriff's Appreciation Luncheon. In 2012 this event will be held at the University Park Country Club in the Sarasota/Bradenton area. With an expected attendance of approximately 60 people, the luncheon offers an opportunity for Suncoast to thank the Chiefs and Sheriffs in the Suncoast region for their support throughout the year. Suncoast picks up the tab for each agency's administrator and members pay a nominal fee. Annual awards and prizes are given out at this luncheon, and a keynote speaker is featured. This year we are pleased to have Deputy Lisa Haber, Crime Stopper Coordinator for the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office as the luncheon speaker. Lisa is a former Suncoast member and officer and we are looking forward to her encouraging words regarding the Crime Stopper program.

In 2011 Suncoast continued the tradition of presenting the Art Walls Award. This award is Suncoast's highest honor and is presented to the member who most closely represents the qualities of dedication to crime prevention and commitment to the community. Art Walls, of the Sarasota Police Department, was a member and past President of Suncoast who passed away in 2000. He is best remembered for his dedication to the field of crime prevention and love for the citizens of his



Suncoast Crime Prevention Association

8110 7th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

community. In 2011 this award was presented to Robert Groover of the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

To further the education of Suncoast members, the association provides at least one tuition scholarship each year to the Florida Crime Prevention Association State Conference. Additional training schools may be requested by Suncoast members and approval for attendance is made by the Officers and Board of Directors. Upon approval for any training program, the Suncoast member is agreeing to present this training at some upcoming Suncoast meeting.

The geographical area covered by the Suncoast Crime Prevention Association is consistent with Region 6 of the Florida Crime Prevention Association. To this end, Suncoast supports the Region 6 representative by paying for his/her hotel room at each FCPA Board of Directors meeting throughout the year. For this privilege, the Region 6 representative makes a monthly report at the Suncoast meeting detailing the activities of the FCPA. The Highlands County Sheriff's Office, Lakeland Police Department and St. Petersburg Police Department, member agencies of Suncoast, will also be presenting training sessions at the 2012 Conference to be held in Orlando this year.

Communicating the crime prevention message of Suncoast is mostly accomplished through our website, www.suncoastcrimeprevention.org. This site has been in existence for several years but was updated within this past year. Maintained by Treasurer Chip Wells, the site features crime prevention tips, information, links and history about the organization. In addition there is a member's area offering an array of PowerPoint presentations and information that members may access and use in their daily activities.

In conclusion, we appreciate your consideration of the Suncoast Crime Prevention Association for Association of the Year honors. We continue to strive to serve our members through educational opportunities and dedication to improving the quality of life for the communities we serve.