

What is Student Crime Stoppers? Some say a place where you snitch to get money, others have yet to learn. To us, it's a way to help the community, a way we can make schools a safer place. To us it's more than just a way to get money, it is doing the right thing. My name is Bailey Dunn, and I am happy to be part of Student Crime Stoppers of Amarillo. If I were to put what student crime stoppers means in my own words, I'd say it's a group of individuals who seek justice in schools, through classmates' information. It assists its community by illuminating problems in our schools and allowing students to feel that what they see as a problem is heard. Not only that but also by assisting the people in our community. The teens are soon to be the leaders in our community, this allows them to have a voice and teaches them how to spread the word. When working for non-profit fundraisers teens learn how to put their needs aside and develop an idea of what their community needs.

This summer Amarillo Police Department hosted its second annual race a cop event. A total of 1,450 people came to watch, while 177 people showed up to race. The event's purpose was to give members of the public a chance to safely race their vehicles while legally trying to outrun a member of Amarillo's finest. Amarillo crime stoppers and student crime stoppers of Amarillo were the event's biggest sponsors. At the event, we sold shirts and talked to people about how helpful crime stoppers can be in a school community. At the event, we made just around \$4,000 which went right back into our program. That money helps us pay for all the conferences, and ambassador retreats we go on. On those trips we take, we learn about how law enforcement works differently in every city. This past July, I and the other 12 ambassadors of Student Crime Stoppers, went on a retreat down to Paris, Texas. In Paris, their population is

24,407, that's about 176,827 people smaller than Amarillo. Seeing the size difference between Paris and Amarillo made me eager to learn about their justice system. On that trip, we had the privilege of talking to the district judge, a Texas ranger, a Paris sheriff's officer, and a Game Warden. Talking to all those people who have different jobs in law enforcement and seeing how the laws work differently in every career, makes me realize how important it is that we have Student Crime Stoppers in our schools to help teens start learning the law from an early age.