

CHAPTER L

TECHNOLOGY

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COMPUTERS

COMPUTERS AND COMPUTER UTILIZATION

Any computers or computer databases owned or maintained by a Crime Stoppers programme should be physically separate from that of a law enforcement agency. This is particularly applicable where a Crime Stoppers programme has contracted to operate out of a law enforcement office. The computer and databases of Crime Stoppers **should not be** linked in any way or be able to access C.P.I.C. (Canadian Police Information Centre) and other law enforcement databases. It is also the position of all Crime Stoppers programmes in Ontario that **“no Crime Stoppers information” should be entered into the Ontario Municipal and Provincial Police Computer (O.M.P.P.A.C.) or any other police intelligence or drug computer systems.**

TELEPHONES

TELEPHONE NUMBER 1-800 DISPLAY AND UTILIZATION

In order to expand and standardize our service delivery level across the Province of Ontario, a major initiative was undertaken to create a 1-800 telephone service. This service was implemented Canada wide and launched at our Annual General Conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario in June 1996. Many programmes have taken advantage of this technological consolidation. However, it is the position of the Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers that the 1-800 service should be universal by all programmes in Ontario. Compliance with this guideline is essential to enhance programme delivery.

FAXES & E-Mails: It is the policy of the Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers that when faxing hard-copy material from one Crime Stoppers agency to another it is the responsibility of the person sending the fax to ensure that the recipient of the information is the person intended to receive same and an appropriate disclaimer should be incorporated.

Sample of a Fax Disclaimer

“This communication is intended for the addressee, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure under law. If you are not the addressee or someone responsible for delivering this communication to the addressee, please be aware that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone and return the original to sender at the address noted above.”

Sample of a E-mail disclaimer

“**CONFIDENTIALITY WARNING**”; This e-mail is confidential and may also be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately by telephoning (Phone number). This e-mail may not be copied or used for any purpose not its contents disclosed to any other person without the author’s express permission

WEB-SITE: (Utilization of an O.A.C.S. web-board/computer security/enrollment on other computer Crime Stoppers web-sites and the general exchange of electronic data are all currently being reviewed by the O.A.C.S. Computer Committee)

