

# Peabody Police Department Anonymous Text and Web Tip Program

## Public Fact Sheet

The Peabody Police Department has launched an anonymous text message and web tip service for our citizens. We hope that this will allow us to receive even greater assistance from the public and believe it will help to solve more crimes. Tip411 allows for a secure and anonymous way to submit crime tips to the Peabody Police.

### Text Message Tips:

**To send an anonymous tip the User types "PEABODYPD" plus their tip on their cell phone or PDA and texts it to "847411" (tip411).** The text message is sent and an alias is generated, masking the identity of the sender from the police. The police have no way of determining the user's identity but can communicate through the tip411 service if necessary.

### Web Tips:

To send a message by anonymous web from, please visit PEABODYPOLICE.ORG and follow the link on the main page. (The Peabody Police website has been redesigned and the new site may not yet be online, the link will still be available on the old site)

### Call 911 in an emergency...

**If you see a crime in progress or need to report an emergency, please call 911.**

These crime tip services are for non-emergency investigative information only and will not summon the police to your location.

### Delete your tip messages...

For your safety, you should always delete all text messages to and from "847411" (tip411) from your inbox and your outbox.

Note: We cannot guarantee this program will work for all participants, though it should work with most cellular phones. Although the program is complimentary to participants, standard text messaging rates may apply. Check with your carrier and wireless plan for details.

### How to Submit a Tip via Text Messaging

To text a tip to the Los Angeles Police Department, you must have text messaging enabled on your phone and subscribe to a participating cell phone carrier. To begin your tip session, text the word "PEABODYPD" to the number 847411, this spells the word "tip411" on your cell phone's keypad.

Here are some basic steps on how to compose a text message.

Find "Messaging" or "SMS" on your phone's main menu.

1. Create a new txt message or send txt or SMS text.
2. When composing your message:
  - Enter the number 847411 as the mobile # or in the "to" line
  - Then, in the message body, type word PEABODYPD, a space, and then your crime tip information (PEABODYPD is not case-sensitive)
3. Hit "Send" to send the message.
4. You will receive a confirmation text from Tip411 which will start the secure text dialogue. Depending on the tip you may receive a response message from the Peabody Police.

•When you complete your tip submission, for your safety, you should always delete all text messages to and from 847411 from your text message in box and out box.

## **What is Text Messaging and How Do I Know If I Can Send or Receive a Text?**

Text messaging is also known as SMS or "short message service." Text messaging is a way to communicate on your mobile by sending or receiving plain text messages. To determine if you can send text messages, it is best to contact your wireless provider or refer to your mobile device's manual. You will not be asked to reveal your identity to the Police in order to provide information about a violent crime and the Police will not be able to trace the text message in any way. A special computer server will send your message and mask your identity before sending your tip to the Police. This service is truly anonymous.

## **Types of tips to Submit**

The Peabody Police Department wants information on every type of crime. No crime is considered too small or large. The text tip program is not traced, and we are not interested in the user's identity. We believe these new anonymous forms of providing tips to the Police offer a way for users to assist the police department in making the city, its neighborhoods and its schools even safer.

## **When to Submit a Tip**

You may submit a tip anytime, anywhere, 24/7.

## **Cost to Send**

Although the Peabody Police service is free and requires no purchase or fee for participation, standard messaging rates and other fees may apply. Check your mobile plan for more details.

## **Privacy**

No mobile phone information is collected by the Peabody Police Department. Your tip is completely anonymous and is only identifiable via a four-digit tip code that will be provided to you. Any information you submit is directed to the Peabody Police Criminal Intelligence & Analysis Unit, who will disseminate the information to the appropriate investigative officers.

## **To Stop the Text Message Program**

To stop the program at any time, which will prevent Peabody Police from being able to securely respond back to you, you can opt out via text message. Send a text message with the word "STOP" to 847411 (tip411). You'll receive a one-time opt-out confirmation text message. If you choose to, you can submit a text tip again at a later time by texting the word PEABODYPD along with your tip to 847411 (tip411)

**Always Call 911 in an emergency**