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Press Release

Winthrop Harbor Police partners with the National White Collar Crime Center

Cyber Crimes Unit continuing its journey combating crimes in cyber space

Winthrop Harbor, IL – July 17, 2009. Chief Brumlik today announced that the Winthrop Harbor Police Department has joined forces with the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C).

The National White Collar Crime Center provides training, investigative support and research to agencies and entities involved in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of economic and high tech crime. By joining NW3C, efforts to combat economic and high-tech crime become fortified on a national level.

As a member agency of NW3C, investigators from the Winthrop Harbor Police Cyber Crimes Unit (CCU) and the Department's Detective Bureau will have access to state-of-the-art training courses, analytical services, resources, and expertise to handle complex fraud and financial crime cases, case funding for fraud investigations that are multi-state in nature, and a stronger understanding of high-tech and economic crime trends using the resources and timely research conducted by NW3C.

"Crime rates typically increase during an economic downturn" said Chief Brumlik. "Both economic and high-tech crimes are on the increase, with the Internet Crimes Complaint Center reporting a 33.1% increase in cases in 2008. We need to do everything we can to ensure we have the resources in place to deal with these increases. Partnering with NW3C provides us one of those resources. "

The Winthrop Harbor Police Department's Cyber Crimes Unit focuses on a wide array of criminal activity, including Internet and computer fraud, predators who are trying to harm Winthrop Harbor's children, cyber bullying, cyber stalking and other forms of computer, Internet, and electronic crimes. The unit works closely with federal, state and other local law enforcement, and industry members to develop, coordinate, and implement effective strategies to combat high tech crimes. The unit is a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, and also provides educational materials to community members in an effort to educate and safeguard village residents against Cyber Crimes.

For additional information, please contact the CCU at (847) 872-2131 ext. 338, or ccu@whpd.org.

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