



MEDIA ALERT

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For Immediate Release

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Crimestoppers GNO President and CEO Darlene Cusanza Awarded Lifetime Achievement by Crimestoppers USA

NEW ORLEANS -- Crimestoppers USA proudly presented Darlene Cusanza with its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, its highest honor, on Saturday morning during the organization's Annual Training Conference, hosted this week in New Orleans.

Chris Cameron, Crimestoppers USA's Chair stated "The presentation of the Crimestoppers USA Lifetime Achievement Award is one of the highest honors we give. It's our ultimate compliment to someone who has truly gone above and beyond – someone whose dedication, leadership, and passion for the Crimestoppers mission have made a lasting impact. This year's recipient has done all that and more. She's not only made a huge difference in her local community, but she's inspired everyone lucky enough to work alongside her."

"Darlene is known as a hard worker," said Cameron. "Fair, sincere, loyal, and trustworthy. She works closely with local, state, and federal agencies and is invited to stand alongside them at press conferences and public briefings. When Darlene speaks, people listen. She's constantly

out in the community – connecting, advocating, and educating – and her efforts have not gone unnoticed.”

“... Another example of her leadership: think back to the March 16th prison break in New Orleans. When ten prisoners escaped through a hole behind a toilet. Six of them were charged with murder or attempted murder – all dangerous individuals. There, standing shoulder to shoulder with law enforcement during those tense days, was Darlene. On national news, she urged the public to call Crimestoppers. And people did. Tips poured in – and she and her team worked tirelessly, day and night, to get that information into the right hands. Because of their dedication, all escapees have been captured. That’s real impact. That’s leadership. That’s Darlene.”

“So for her decades of service, her unwavering commitment to community, her tireless fight against crime, and her extraordinary leadership – it is my honor to present the Crimestoppers USA Lifetime Achievement Award to Darlene Cusanza.”

Cusanza, who serves as the President and CEO of Crimestoppers GNO, has also served 10 years as a valued member of the Crimestoppers USA’s Board of Directors. She has spent decades working tirelessly to ensure that her community has a trusted, anonymous resource for reporting crime. Throughout her career, she has been a driving force in promoting safety and justice across New Orleans and beyond. The award honors Cusanza’s 31 years of dedicated service and her unwavering commitment to the Crimestoppers mission.

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About Crimestoppers GNO

To foster a safe community, our mission is to prevent and solve crime by providing educational crime prevention programs for youth and adults, and by assisting Law Enforcement Agencies, victims of crime and their families, in identifying and arresting criminal suspects through anonymous tips by citizens. To learn more visit: www.crimestoppersgno.org