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City Manager's Office

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Robert L. Davis  
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** CrimeReports.com & Logitech  
Collaboration with City of San Jose

**DATE:** October 27, 2010

Approved

*Deanna Antuna*

Date

10/28/10

## INFORMATION

On Friday, October 29, 2010, the San Jose Police Department (the Department), in concert with City Administration, will be announcing support for a private sector collaboration that it believes will enhance the services available through CrimeReports.com. In 2007, the Department began using CrimeReports.com to deliver near-real-time computer-aided dispatch (CAD) data via the Internet to the public. CrimeReports.com enables members of the public to view and identify CAD event data and registered sex offenders on a San Jose map, as well as sign up for automated e-mail alerts based on areas and events of interest.

CrimeReports.com recently partnered with the company, Logitech, a technology company that designs and produces peripheral devices for computers. For this project, Logitech worked with CrimeReports.com to add specific functionality to the *Neighborhood Central* application so that users who employ video cameras as a personal crime prevention technique, can register their video devices within the application. Any video recorded by these cameras remains the property of the users, but by registering the camera, other *Neighborhood Central* users can see icons showing where the cameras are located. Awareness of this crime prevention asset is meant to stimulate collaboration and communication among community members as well as support prevention efforts with the Department. This application enhancement is based on the principle that cameras may help prevent crime. Beyond, if a crime is committed and captured on video, the video may help the Department to successfully identify and apprehend an offender.

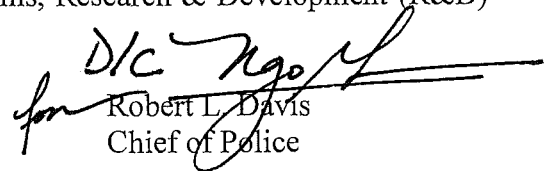
To help raise awareness of the value of using video cameras as a crime prevention method for this pilot project, and in guidance with Department's Neighborhood Watch program, Logitech is contributing fifty (50) high-definition (HD) video camera systems to residents of the City of San Jose. The indoor and outdoor camera systems are easy-to-setup and easy-to-use, and will give select residents the ability to monitor and record public-facing footage from their home and save the footage to their personal computer. By leveraging its HD video security technology with CrimeReports.com, Logitech aims to raise the awareness of a proven method in helping to

prevent neighborhood-level crime in the City of San Jose. The Department is working with staff from *Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services* and the *Strong Neighborhoods* program to determine an effective mechanism to connect Logitech with resident volunteers who would use the 50 video camera systems that are being donated for this pilot project. The camera systems are being distributed by Logitech directly to the residents. Once the residents receive the camera systems and register them within the *Neighborhood Central* application, the residents are the legal owners of the camera and any video they capture. Users of CrimeReports.com *Neighborhood Central* application agree to and shall abide by the company's Terms of Use (TOU) and Terms of Service (TOS).

Logitech's contribution of the 50 video security systems is intended to raise awareness about the role of video in local crime prevention. It's important to note, however, that any brand of video camera can be registered within the *Neighborhood Central* application; it does not have to be a Logitech brand. As part of this crime prevention pilot project, users will be directed to place the video cameras so that they face the exterior of the home ("public-facing"). Law enforcement agencies are interested in knowing the location of video cameras that face public areas (e.g., streets, sidewalks, businesses, buildings, etc.) that may capture suspicious and criminal activity.

This pilot project represents a business partnership between CrimeReports.com and Logitech, as well as the collaboration of those two private-sector companies with the City to augment crime prevention and neighborhood watch efforts. The application functionality (and intended usage) is governed by a Terms of Use (TOU) and Terms of Service (TOS) between the companies (CrimeReports.com and Logitech) and the end-user; not the City or the Department.

The Department will urge residents to call the police department at (408) 277-8911 if they discover that a video camera has captured a suspicious or criminal incident in a public space in front of their property. The Department will be in contact with the reporting party, determine if video footage should be collected as evidence and explain the possible, future investigative direction. It's important to note that currently, *Neighborhood Central* does not allow anyone except for the video camera owner to view video footage. The Web address of the video feed is not explicitly identified. The *Neighborhood Central* application only allows the camera owner to register the fact that a camera system exists at the location. Also, different brands of video cameras store video footage on personal computers in different ways, so users that register video cameras will have to determine (possibly by contacting the video camera manufacturer) where on the personal computer video footage is stored, how long it is stored, and where it is stored for retrieval (if need be). For any questions, please contact Phan Ngo, Deputy Chief of Police, Bureau of Administration, at 408-277-4147 or Lt. Tom Sims, Research & Development (R&D) Unit, 408-277-5200.

  
for Robert L. Davis  
Chief of Police