

DOB IN

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Crime Stoppers Tasmania Media Release

Wednesday 19 December 2018

Tassie's alarming drug induced death rate

The media is invited to the Tasmanian launch of the national Dob in a Dealer Campaign.

WHEN:	Wednesday 19 December, 2018
WHERE:	ABC Building, Hobart (side/front lawns)
TIME:	11:00 - 11:30am
Spokesperson:	Mr David Daniels, Chair, Crime Stoppers Tasmania Senator The Hon Eric Abetz Detective Inspector Col Riley, Tasmania Police

Australian Bureau of Statistics has revealed that Tasmania had the second highest drug induced death rate in Australia, at 9.4 deaths per 100,000 people (ABS Causes of Deaths, Australia, 2016).

What is even more alarming being that the greater Hobart region had the highest rate in the nation at 11.5 deaths per 100,000. The next highest rate in any region in Australia was Perth, WA at 9.8 deaths per 100,000 population.

Crime Stoppers Tasmania Chair, David Daniels said that 52 Tasmanians died as a direct result of drug use (excluding deaths resulting from tobacco or alcohol).

"This is not only very sad but a major concern with an average of one Tasmanian dying as a direct result of drugs every week", Mr Daniels said.

"To put this in perspective, drug induced deaths were even higher than road fatalities with 36 Tasmanian dying on our roads in 2016. What is most distressing is that drug induced deaths are avoidable", said Mr Daniels.

We can remove the supply of drugs and help save Tasmanian lives in our communities by informing on those dealing drugs.

Through the Dob in a Dealer Campaign, Crime Stoppers is calling on Tasmanians to report information about the manufacture and supply of drugs by reporting anything they know about drug-dealing offences.

**CALL 1800 333 000 OR VISIT CRIMESTOPPERS.COM.AU
REWARDS ARE AVAILABLE.**



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“The last Dob in a Dealer campaign saw a fourfold increase in information reports received by Crime Stoppers Tasmania concerning drug related activity during the campaign in November 2018.

“It is our hope that this campaign might again provide Tasmanian Police with an even greater increase in information leading to a reduction in supply and thereby directly saving Tasmanian lives”, said Mr Daniels.

“You don’t need to have the complete story, just provide as much detail as you can. Even the smallest piece of information could provide value to a police investigation”, Mr Daniels added.

It is important to note that the campaign is not about targeting users of illicit drugs. Crime Stoppers Tasmania asks that the community support those affected by drug use and encourage them to seek the appropriate professional help such as Family Drug Help, Youth Support and Advocacy Service, Salvation Army Bridge Centre, City Mission or Lifeline.

The Dob in a Dealer campaign is a nation-wide program funded by the Federal Government seeking to stop Australia’s supply of illicit drugs such as methylamphetamine (ice), ecstasy and cannabis.

If you have any information about someone who is manufacturing or dealing drugs, you can call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online at www.crimestoppers.com.au. Remember, you are able to pass on information anonymously.

– ENDS –

MEDIA Contacts: David Daniels, Chair, Crime Stoppers Tasmania: 0400 118 666

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Crime Stoppers plays an integral part in supporting safer communities across Australia. It is a state based not-for-profit organisation partnering with law enforcement, the media and local communities to create awareness of criminal issues. Information collected by Crime Stoppers is passed on to law enforcement agencies anonymously to help solve and prevent crime and keep Australian communities and families safe.

If you have information about someone in your community who is manufacturing or supplying drugs or any other criminal activities, call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report securely online at www.crimestoppers.com.au.

For more information on Crime Stoppers visit <https://www.crimestoppers.com.au>

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