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BRACKEN COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Howard W. Niemeier, Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE

TOWN HALL MEETING/SHERIFF UPDATE

I would like to take this time to thank the citizens for their support and comments over the last five weeks. It has been very busy in the Sheriff's Office, as we have been addressing issues that have been given to us and cases from the past administration. I have made a lot of changes in the office and this is only the beginning. This includes new policy and procedures, a service oriented approach to working with citizens, officer daily activity sheets, and increased patrol and work ethic by deputies. Over the last five weeks we have been investigating numerous cases and have solved the majority of these cases. These investigations have resulted in 10 felony charges, 8 misdemeanor charges and some cases being solved through mediation between the parties.

We have instituted a Business Check and Vacation Check programs; and have developed new forms for reporting information within the agency. We have also set up an anonymous tip line for reporting of crime, the phone number is 606-735-2578. This anonymous tip line can be used to report any type of crime, but is especially set up for the reporting of drug activity in the County. We will be taking a hard stand against drugs and will be investigating them throughout the year. This is a huge problem in the County and is not something that we will be taking lightly. If you have information do not hesitate to contact us, these investigations usually take several months to address so don't get disappointed if you do not see activity taking place. These cases will also be investigated based information obtained and our ability to develop enough information to build a case.

I have told many citizens in my conversations with them in regards to criminal activity in the county that we will not be able to solve every case that we investigate, but this will not be due to the lack of effort on our part to solve these crimes. I promise you that we will investigate each case we get to the best of our ability. Should you have a problem with a case that we have investigated do not hesitate to contact me.

Crime tips: we have received information on a phone scam that is taking place in the county, if you are receiving phone calls from a 876 area code advising you that you will receive a package in the mail, do not fall for this it is a scam that has been going on for over twenty years with the phone calls generating out of Jamaica. If you receive one of these calls tell them that you are not interested and to quit calling you. We have also had a few thefts of copper wire out of barns in the County. Should you see anyone around a barn that looks out of place try to get a plate number on the vehicle and call Bracken County Dispatch immediately.

On March 8, 2011 at 7pm the Bracken County Sheriff Office will be hosting a Town Hall meeting in the Bracken County Courthouse on the 2nd floor. This meeting will be to distribute crime prevention information, address the citizens and to listen to any concerns that citizens may have. This information will be taken down and looked into by our agency. The Sheriff will also give a short overview of the changes that have been made in the department and some of the programs that have been initiated since taking office. Come out and support your local Sheriff and learn what is going on in the Community.

The Bracken County Sheriff Office is dedicated to making this a safer county for our kids, grandkids, family and friends to live, work and play.