



Health, Wellness & Safety Committee

**SAFE2TELL
1-877-542-7233
safe2tellco.org**

Distributed by the Colorado PTA

Safe2Tell was founded on the idea that prevention and early intervention are critical to preventing violence, saving lives, and helping hurting kids. Safe2Tell operates best when it is part of a broader approach to school safety and violence prevention that focuses on creating a positive school culture and climate that encourages bystander reporting. A safe and positive school culture and climate is attuned and responsive to students' needs.

THE MISSION: To ensure that every student, teacher, parent, and community member has access to a safe and anonymous way of reporting concerns about their safety or the safety of others. The focus is on early intervention through awareness and education.

The Safe2Tell solution was developed specifically to encourage and empower youth and adults in Colorado communities and schools with an increased ability to prevent and report violence and other concerning behavior by submitting a tip that is distributed to local responders and officials for investigation and follow-up. The Safe2Tell Colorado model creates a method for early intervention in the lives of youth who are struggling, helping them when they need it, before situations turn into tragedies.

ANSWERING: Safe2Tell offers a 24/7 answering point for schools, students, teachers, parents, and community members to anonymously report safety concerns. This resource provides individuals with access to a live trained communications professional able to engage in two-way dialogue. This individual receives tips through calls, web-reports, and phone apps that are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Safe2Tell tips received through the 24/7 Answering Point are acknowledged through time stamp reports and investigated by school personnel and local law enforcement as required. This method is an effective way to gather high-quality information that ensures immediate referrals to the correct network of partners (e.g., law enforcement, school staff, and state agencies).

ANONYMITY: Protecting the anonymity of the tip reporter is critical to the success of Safe2Tell. Anonymity offers emotional and physical safety to the reporter of information. Safe2Tell recommends all communities and states implementing Safe2Tell legally protect the anonymity of those submitting reports and the content of the Safe2Tell reports. In Colorado's implementation of Safe2Tell, the anonymity of those making Safe2Tell reports is protected by Colorado state law (C.R.S.07-197.C.R.S. 12-097, and C.R.S. 14-002). Safe2Tell in Colorado, the number of reports received, and the quality of those reports improved once the reporter's anonymity was protected by law.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Established methods for follow-up and accountability for every tip ensure that the Safe2Tell reporting system is trustworthy. All Safe2Tell tips are acknowledged through time stamp reports and investigated by school personnel and local law enforcement as needed. Investigation findings are reported via Disposition Reports and returned to the appropriate state or community resources in a timely manner with documented resolution. This process ensures that ALL tips are investigated and resolved.

A vital component of the Safe2Tell model is conducting internal conversations to empower youth to speak up, without fear of retaliation, embarrassment, or labeling. Safe2Tell Colorado provides the promise of hope and help, with caring adults ready to intervene and advocate for their support. Safe2Tell Colorado focuses on schools and communities, while also shifting attitudes toward what to watch for, what not to ignore, and what to report.

Find more information about Safe2Tell Colorado, as well as additional resources, at safe2tellco.org.

Appreciation to Colorado Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman

SAFE2TELL COLORADO
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Mobile App - Apple Store

(<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/safe2tell-co/id997405891?mt=88ing-mpt=uo%3D4>)



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