



During the final weeks of the 2018 Legislative Session, The Attorney General's Office worked to have language included in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act to fund the development of a mobile suspicious-activity reporting tool that allows students and the community to relay information anonymously concerning unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, to appropriate public safety agencies and school officials. Students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School named the app and helped create the logo. The students chose the name FortifyFL as the purpose of the app truly represents the definition of the word fortify—to strengthen and protect against attack.

The Florida Attorney General's Office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Florida Department of Education launched Fortify Florida, a suspicious activity reporting app in Fall 2018. The app is now available to students across the state.



### Florida Statutes 943.082 School Safety Awareness Program

- (1) In collaboration with the Department of Legal Affairs, the department shall competitively procure a mobile suspicious activity reporting tool that allows students and the community to relay information anonymously concerning unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, to appropriate public safety agencies and school officials. As recommended by students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the program shall be named "FortifyFL." At a minimum, the department must receive reports electronically through the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool that is available on both Android and Apple devices.
- (2) The reporting tool must notify the reporting party of the following information:
  - (a) That the reporting party may provide his or her report anonymously.
  - (b) That if the reporting party chooses to disclose his or her identity, that information shall be shared with the appropriate law enforcement agency and school officials; however, the law enforcement agency and school officials shall be required to maintain the information as confidential.
- (3) Information reported using the tool must be promptly forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency or school official.
- (4)(a) Law enforcement dispatch centers, school districts, schools, and other entities identified by the department must be made aware of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool.



(b) The district school board shall promote the use of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool by advertising it on the school district website, in newsletters, on school campuses, and in school publications, by installing it on all mobile devices issued to students, and by bookmarking the website on all computer devices issued to students.



(5) The department, in collaboration with the Division of Victim Services within the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Safe Schools within the Department of Education, shall develop and provide a comprehensive training and awareness program on the use of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool.

(6) The identity of the reporting party received through the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool and held by the department, law enforcement agencies, or school officials is confidential and exempt from s. [119.07\(1\)](#) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Any other information received through the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool and held by the department, law enforcement agencies, or school officials is exempt from s. [119.07\(1\)](#) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. [119.15](#) and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.



## Suspicious Activity Reporting App



FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows the public to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



## Reporting using the website

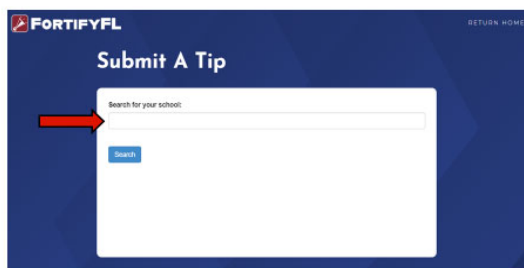
There are two ways to report a tip, via the website (<https://getfortifyfl.com/>) or by downloading the app through the Apple Store or the Google Play Store.





## Submit A Tip

To submit a tip online you will first need to choose the school where the suspicious activity occurred. In the box provided type in the name of the school and click Search.

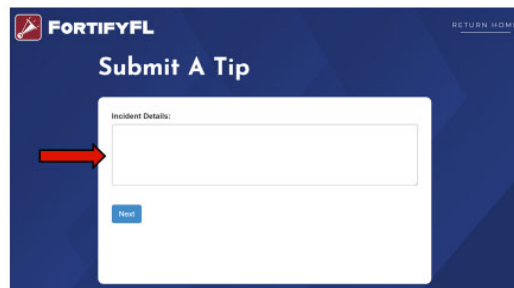


The screenshot shows the FortifyFL 'Submit A Tip' interface. At the top left is the FortifyFL logo, and at the top right is a 'RETURN HOME' link. The main heading is 'Submit A Tip'. Below this is a form with a text input field labeled 'Search for your school:' and a blue 'Search' button. A red arrow points to the text input field.



## Submit A Tip

Once the school has been selected an Incident Details box will appear. This is where the suspicious activity will be described.

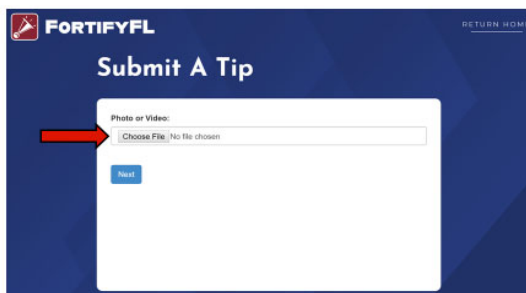


The screenshot shows the FortifyFL 'Submit A Tip' interface after a school has been selected. The form now includes an 'Incident Details:' text input field and a blue 'Next' button. A red arrow points to the 'Incident Details:' input field.



## Submit A Tip

A photo or video can be attached to the tip. Select choose File and click on the photo/video to go along with the tip.

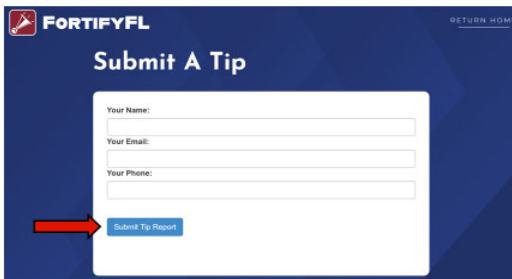


The screenshot shows the 'Submit A Tip' form on the FORTIFYFL website. The form has a blue header with the logo and a 'RETURN HOME' link. The main section is titled 'Submit A Tip'. Below the title, there is a 'Photo or Video:' label. Underneath, there is a 'Choose File' button and a 'No file chosen' text. A red arrow points to the 'Choose File' button. Below the file selection area, there is a 'Next' button.



## Submit A Tip

The last screen is optional for contact information. If you choose to remain anonymous leave all boxes blank and click the Submit Tip Report button.

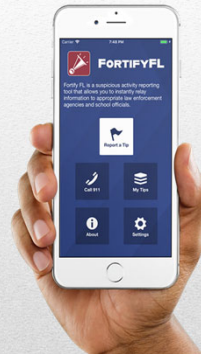


The screenshot shows the 'Submit A Tip' form on the FORTIFYFL website. The form has a blue header with the logo and a 'RETURN HOME' link. The main section is titled 'Submit A Tip'. Below the title, there are three input fields labeled 'Your Name:', 'Your Email:', and 'Your Phone:'. Below these fields, there is a 'Submit Tip Report' button. A red arrow points to the 'Submit Tip Report' button.



## FortifyFL Update

- Launched on October 8, 2018
- 249 Law Enforcement Agencies
- 6,949 Public & Private Schools
- 73 School Districts
- 14,309 tips received since deployment

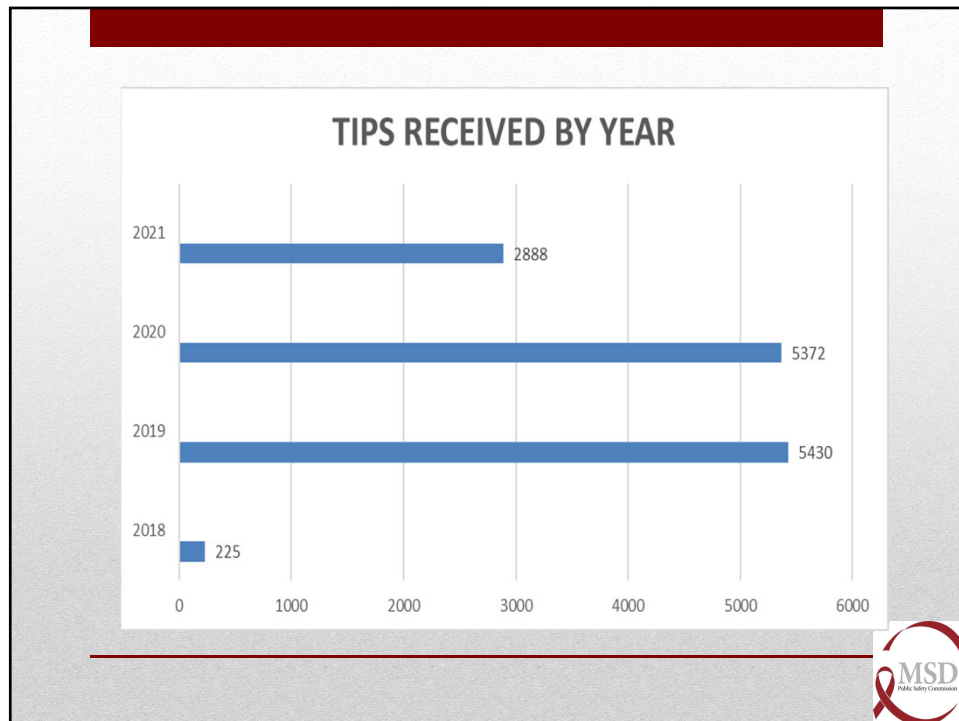


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## Suspicious Activity Reporting App

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### School Safety Reporting Tips Utilized in Florida

- 10 Districts utilize only FortifyFL of which 1 stated they do not advertise other School Safety Tools but two other tools are available regionally to them.
  - 28 Districts utilize Crime Stoppers of which 13 utilize an additional School Safety Tool.
  - 22 Districts utilize Say Something of which 13 utilize an additional School Safety Tool.
  - 8 use a locally developed School Safety Tool of which 4 use an additional School Safety Tool.
  - 2 use Saferwatch and an additional School Safety Tool
  - 7 districts individually use other Schools Safety Tools.
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### TIP CATEGORIZATION 2020

Stab/Shoot/Kill/Bomb	244	5%
Self Harm	110	2%
Bullying/School Fight or Other Violence Including Rape	215	4%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	42	1%
Drugs on Campus/Vaping	360	7%
Sexual Misconduct	30	1%
Student Admin	422	8%
Staff Admin	174	3%
Facilities Admin	33	1%
Not School Safety/Facilities Issues/Admin Issues	2529	47%
Unintelligible or Keystrokes	1213	23%



### TIP CATEGORIZATION

#### January thru August 2021

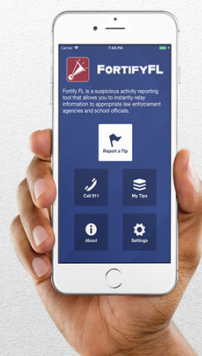
Stab/Shoot/Kill/Bomb	190	7%
Self Harm	78	3%
Bullying/School Fight or Other Violence Including Rape	313	11%
*Weapons on Campus	18	1%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Package on Campus	38	1%
Drugs on Campus/Vaping/Sexual Misconduct	380	13%
*Crime Occurring Off Campus	47	2%
Not School Safety/Facilities Issues/Admin Issues	823	28%
*Technical Issues/Testing of FortifyFL	95	3%
Unintelligible or Keystrokes	906	31%
*Denotes new 2021 category		





## Enhancements to FortifyFL 2018/2019

- Spanish version created. Automated translations of Spanish tips to English.
- Automated data integrated with FDOE systems
- Administrative enhancements for export for administrators.
- App updated to support latest smartphones

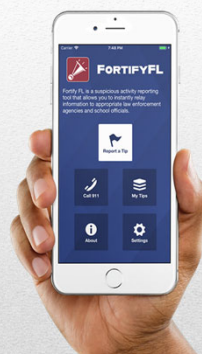


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## Enhancements to FortifyFL 2020

- Web interface was modified to provide more user friendly tip submission by addition of search buttons.
- Additional language added on the photo or video submission prompt. Informing tipster it is not necessary to submit a tip.
- Administrative enhancements for export for administrators.

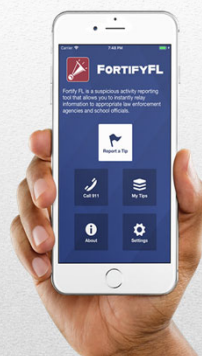


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## Enhancements to FortifyFL 2021

- System notice capability for messaging to all users.
- Anti-virus scanning of attachments.
- Findings narrative added for closing of tips.
- How to training video for web portal was developed.

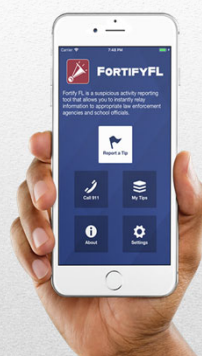


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## FortifyFL Future Enhancements

- Auto populate of school name in tip entry.
- Clearer labeling of tip entry tabs in App.
- Develop additional training for users and admin.
- Additional marketing of FortifyFL.



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