



<https://www.chron.com/neighborhood/katy/news/article/iWatch-Harris-County-mobile-app-to-funnel-tips-9512027.php>

iWatch Harris County mobile app to funnel tips directly to HISD

From the Harris County Sheriff's Office **Published 11:00 pm CDT, Tuesday, October 29, 2013**
(HOUSTON, TX) - The Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), with the collaboration of the Houston Independent School District (HISD), is extending its free mobile phone app, iWatch Harris County, to now allow the public to report crimes directly to HISD police.

The extension of the HCSO's free mobile phone app will allow HISD students, parents, and teachers to report crimes in and around their campuses via iWatchHarrisCounty directly to the HISD Police Department.

i-Watch Harris County, now in its second year, is a free mobile app that lets citizens send anonymous tips, images and videos about crimes or suspicious activities directly to law enforcement. The HCSO has formatted the app to allow tips to be sent directly to HISD and its police department as it monitors reports made specifically about any of the district's 282 campuses.

"Young folks know there's always 'an app for that.' Now they can use iWatch HarrisCounty to quickly and easily report any suspicious activity from their phones directly to their campus police," said Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia. "Working with our local community partners to further promote school safety is our top priority."

In addition to HISD, the HCSO is also collaborating with the other 24 school districts within Harris County to rollout this app extension to their campuses within the next six weeks.

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"We are excited to be partnering with the Harris County Sheriff's Office to make iWatch available to HISD's students. This partnership will provide HISD another tool to help students report any suspicious activity on campus and in their communities," HISD Chief of Police Jimmy Dotson said. "iWatch will allow students to report any suspicious activity they see while maintaining their anonymity."

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