



DECEMBER 2023 &  
ANNUAL 2023  
COURAGE2REPORT  
ACTIVITY SUMMARY

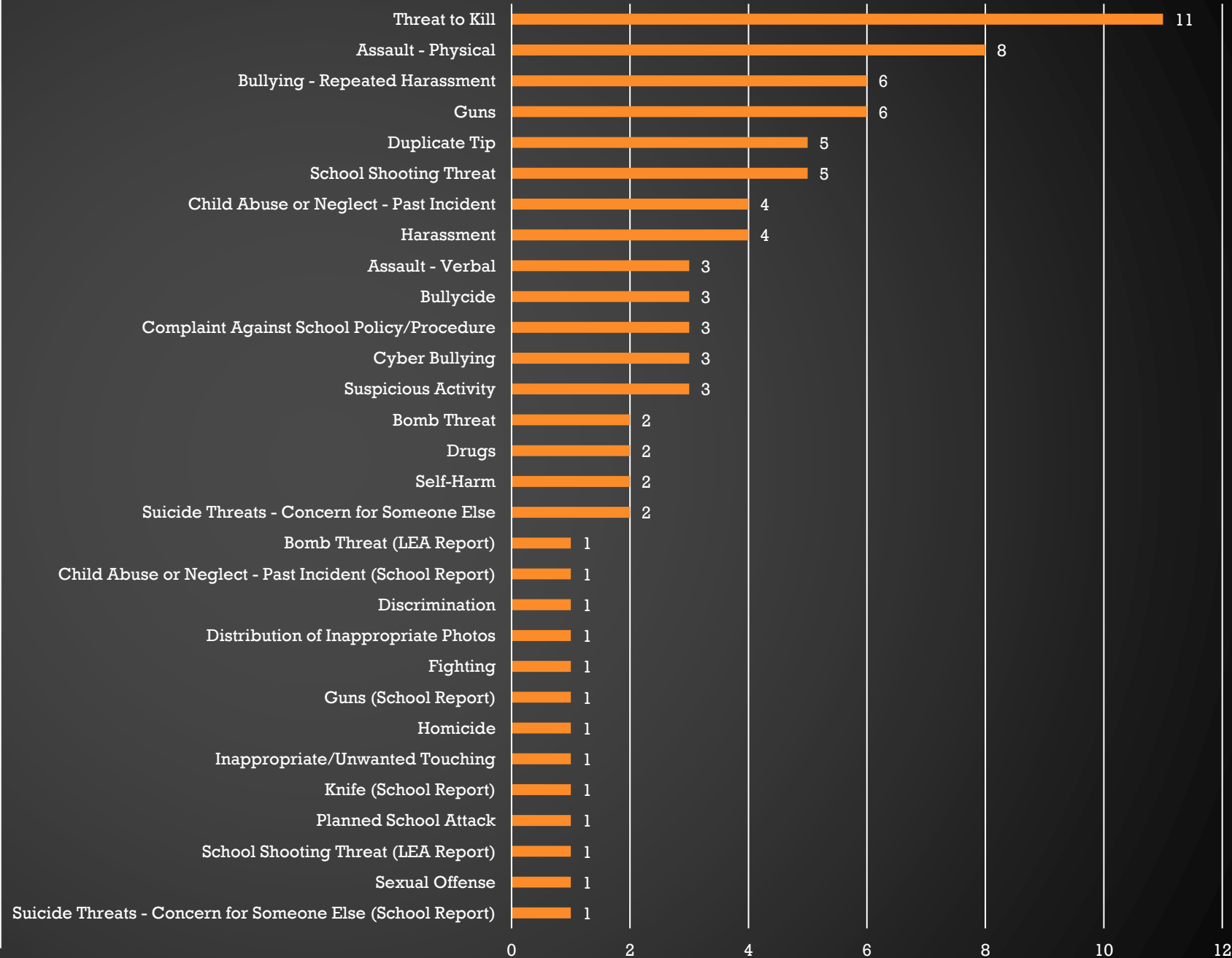
# DECEMBER 2023 TIP SUMMARY

In December 2023, Courage2Report received **85** tips.

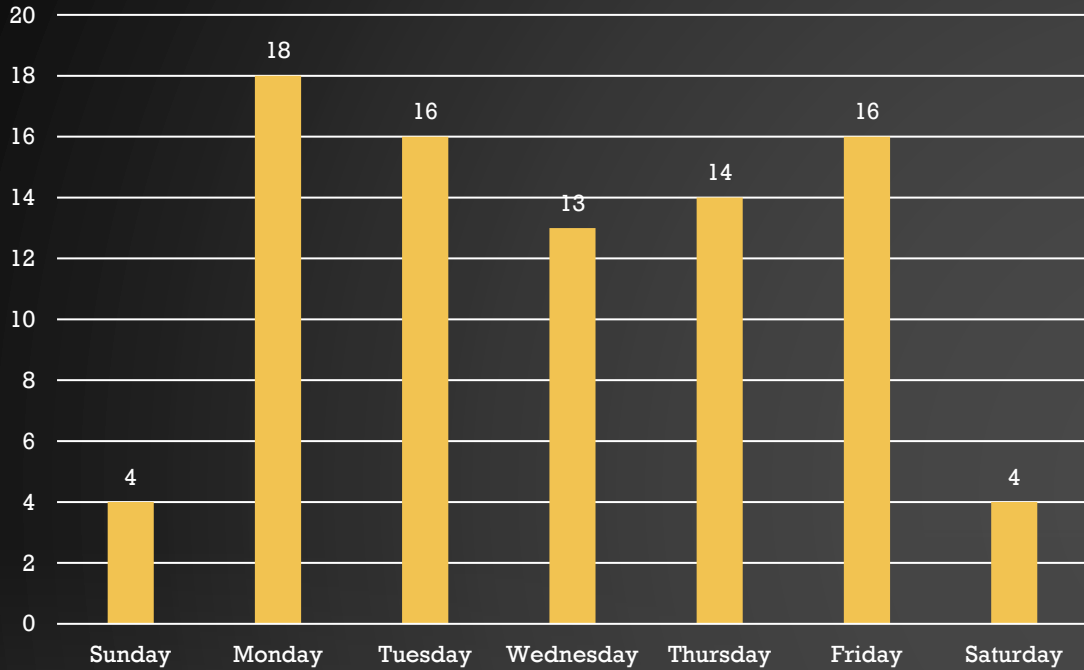
Compared to last year, (105 tips in December 2022), we saw a **19%** decrease.

**Threat to Kill** was the number one most reported tip type this month, last December the most reported tip type was **Bullying**.

## December 2023 Tip Summary

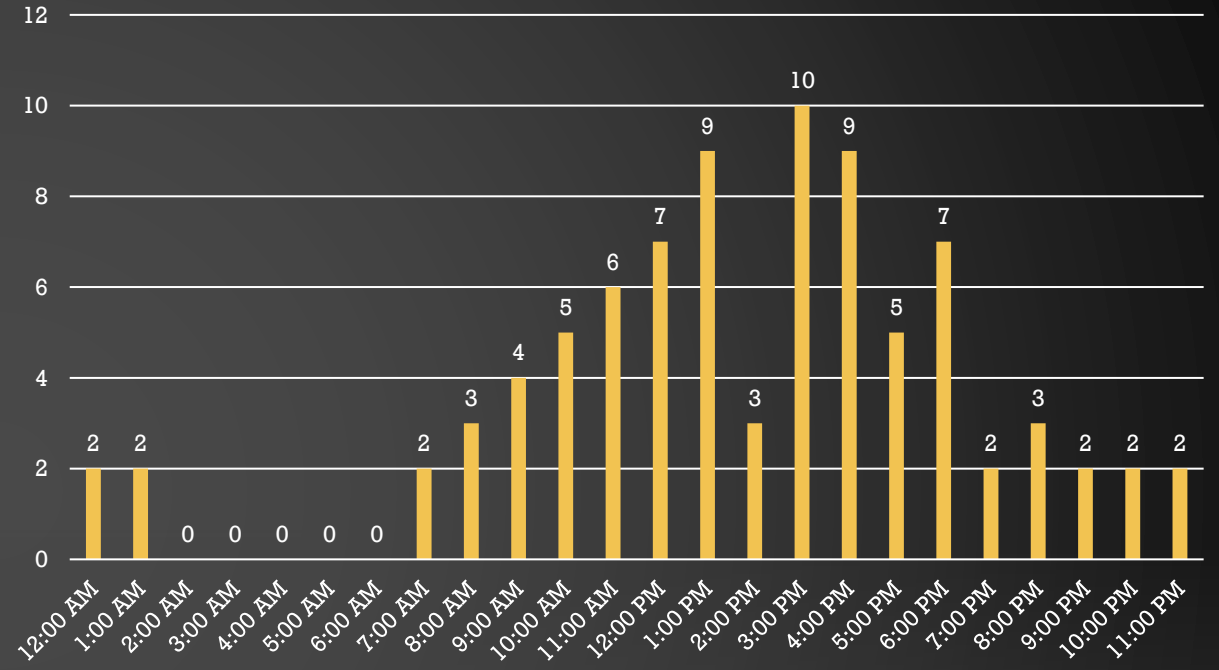


### December Tips by Days of the Week



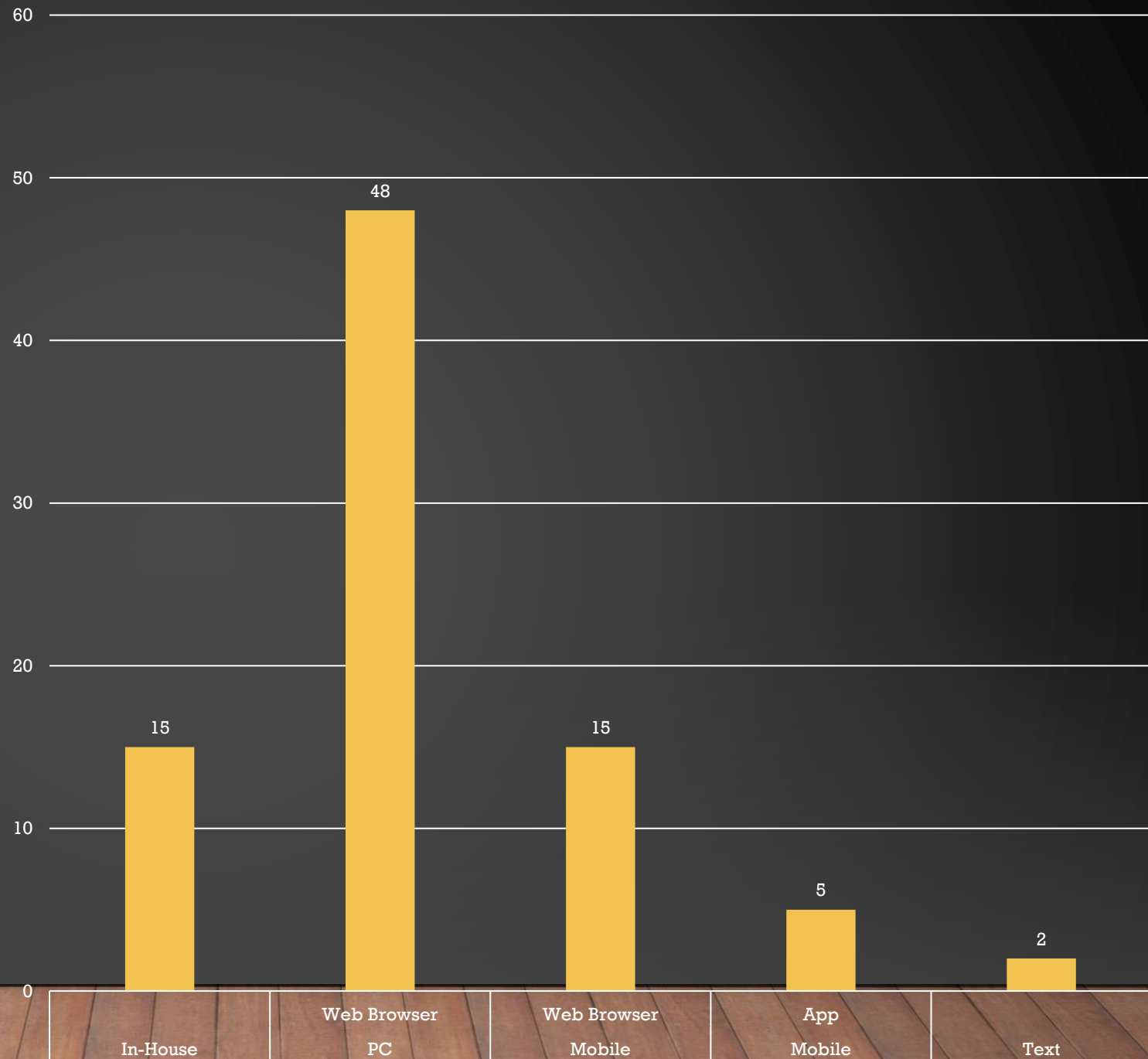
In the month of December, Monday was the day of the week with the most tips reported. Whereas, Wednesday was the day with the most tips reported in November.

### December Tips by Hours of the Day



In December, the busiest time of day was 3:00 PM. Most tips seem to be around this time as the school day is just coming to an end.

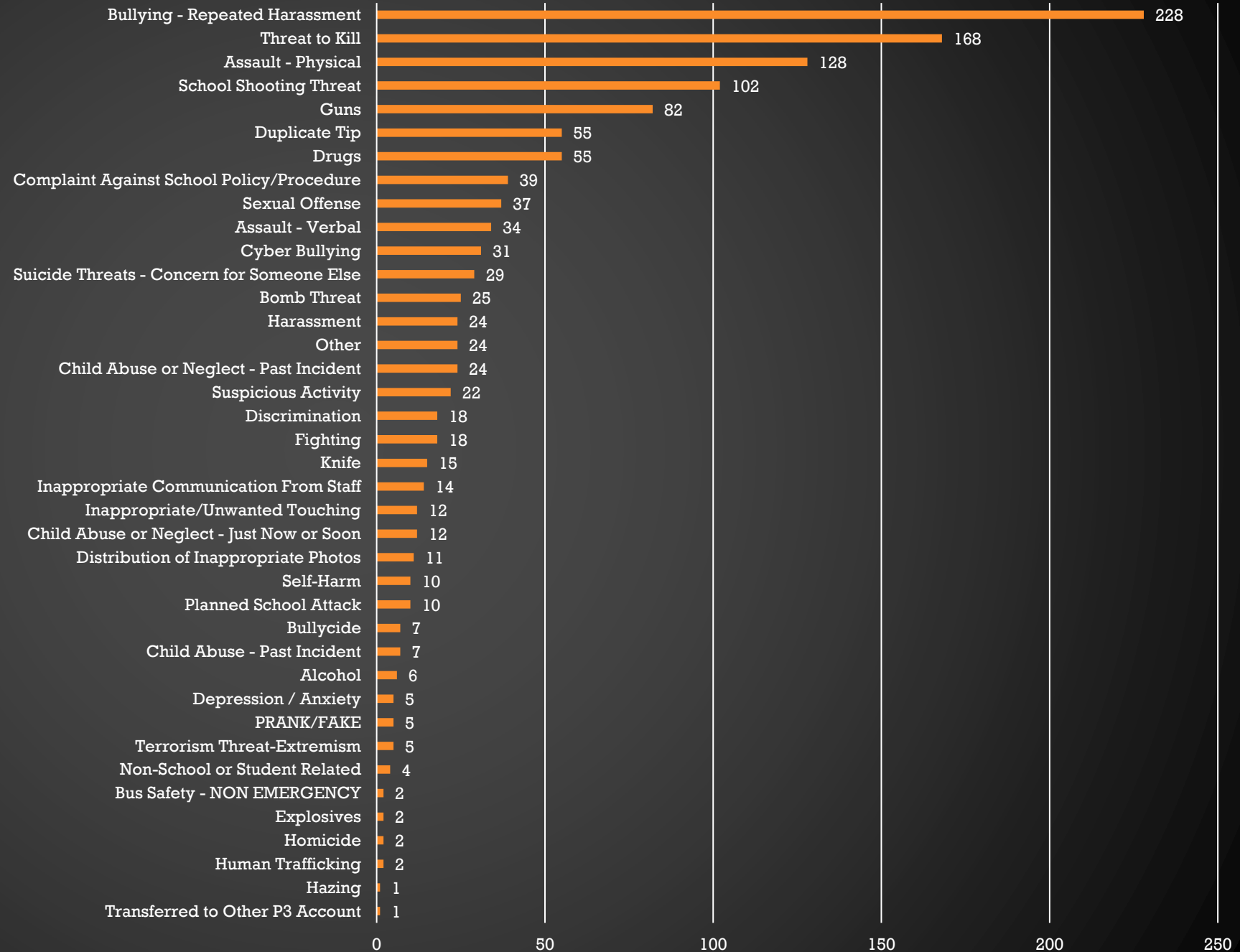
Reporting from a computer's browser was the preferred way to submit tips in December.



In the graph to the right, you will see Courage2Report tip summary from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. The type of tip most reported was **Bullying** with **228** tips. Second was **Threat to Kill** with **160**, and third was **Assault** with **125** tips.

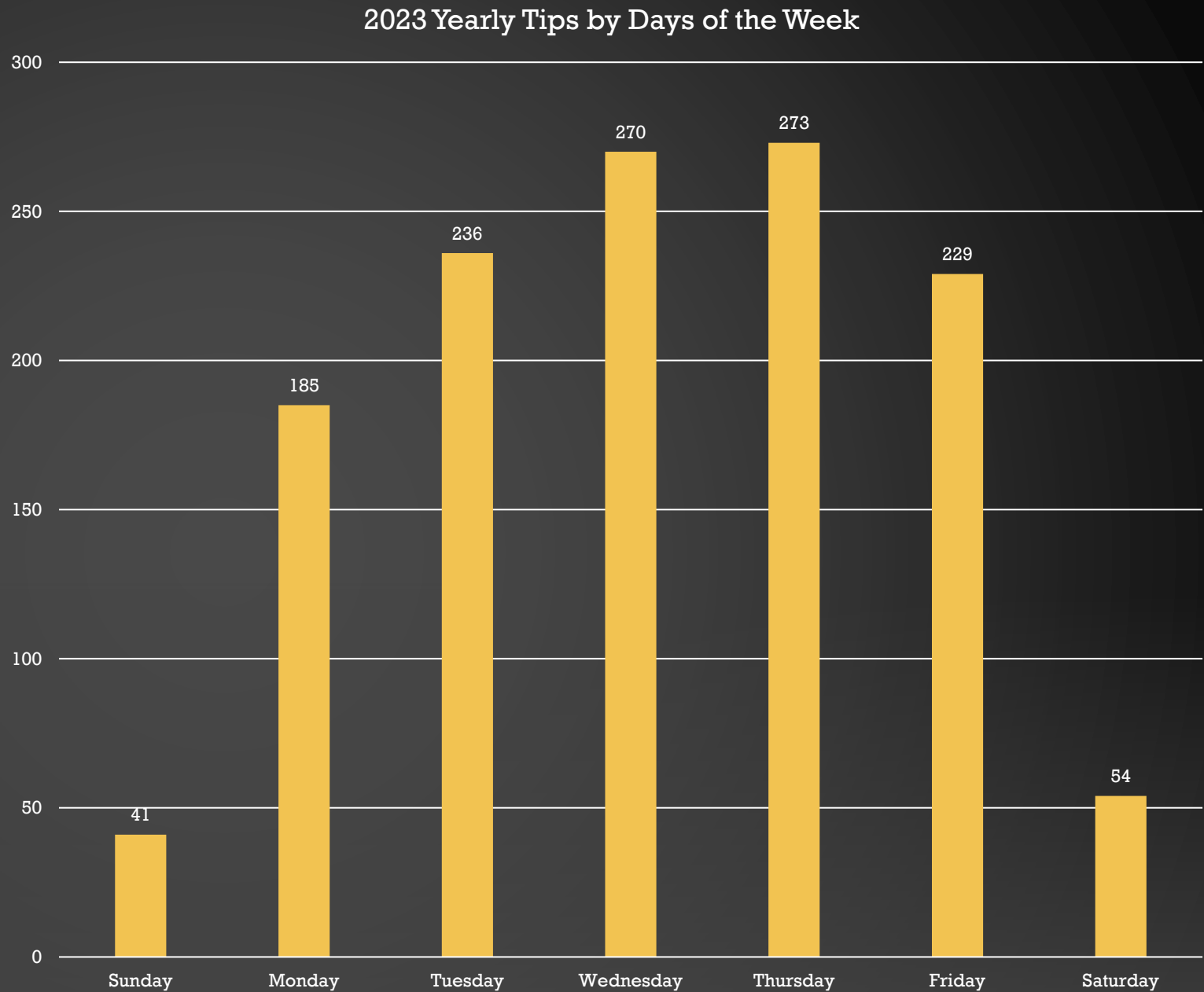
A threat to kill is separate from a school shooting threat. Our threat to kill tips are when students make remarks or comments about an act of targeted violence. A school shooting threat is when a person makes a threat to the school. Usually, individual names are not used.

## 2023 Tip Summary



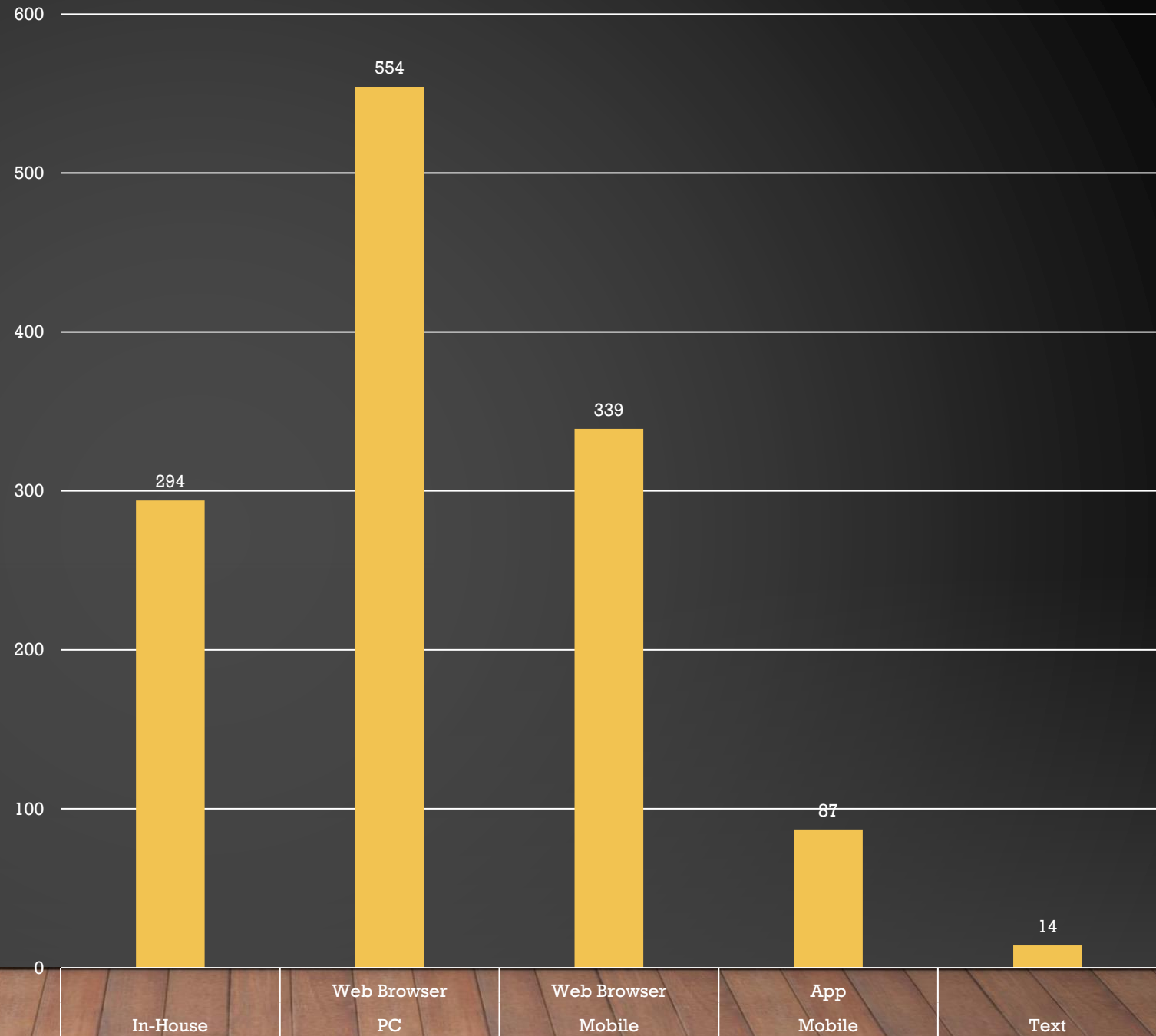
In 2023, we received the most tips on Thursdays, with a total of **273** tips.

Sundays were the lowest day of the week.



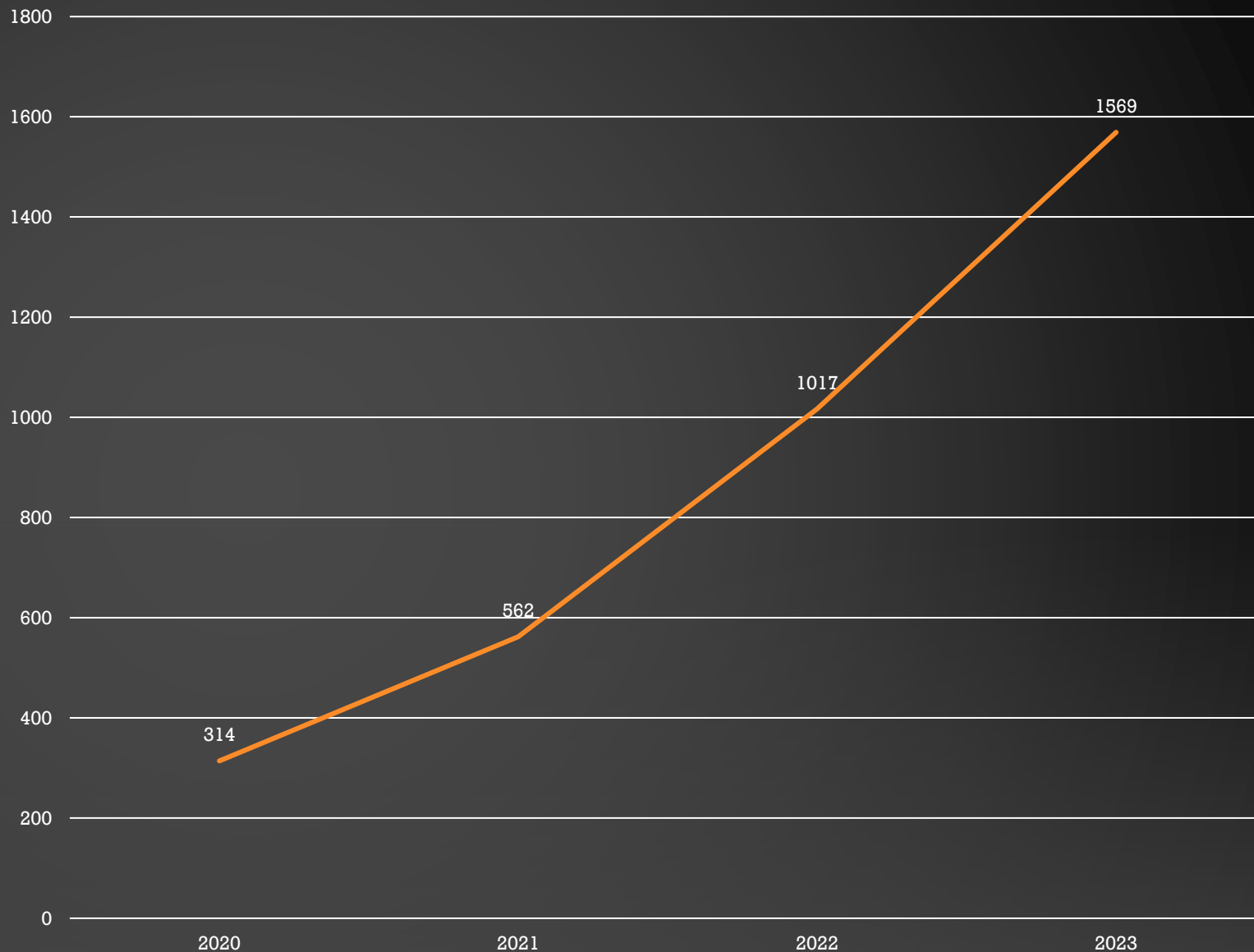


Web Browser PC tips were the most frequent mode of submission in the year 2023. These are the tips that come in through our website.



Over the past four years  
Courage2Report tips have  
grown substantially. This is  
most likely because of the  
success in outreach and  
awareness raised for  
school violence, as well as  
adding HandleWithCare.

Courage2Report Tip Totals - Past Four Years





# Handle With Care (HWC)

In December 2023, we received **25** HandleWithCare tips.

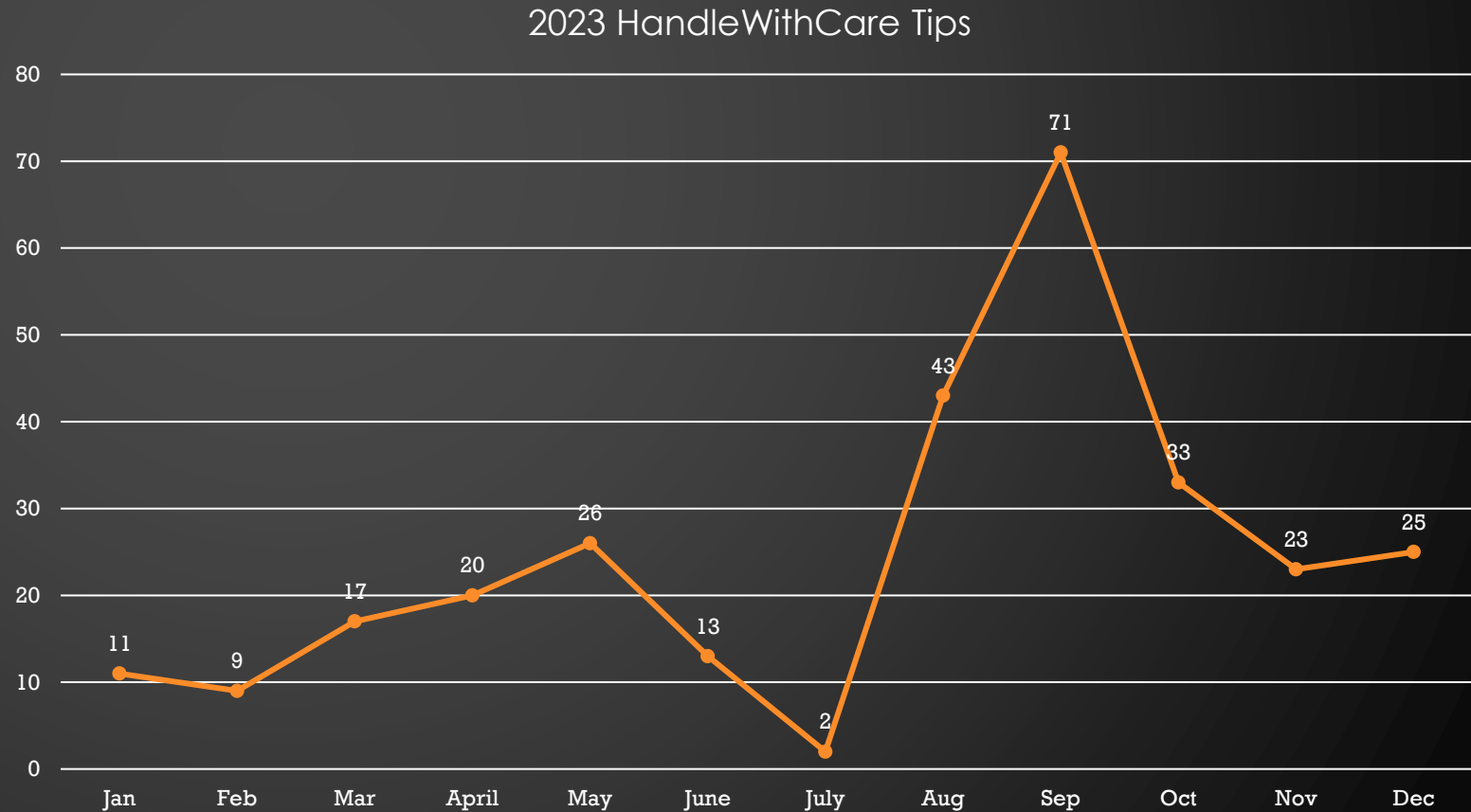
In 2023, we received a total of **293** HandleWithCare tips.

HandleWithCare will be live in Scotland County very soon.

**Did you know?** In some areas, HWC includes other First Responders, such as EMS and Fire.

## The “HandleWithCare” Model:

If a law enforcement officer encounters a child during a call, that child’s information is forwarded to the school before the school bell rings the next day. The school implements individual, class and whole school trauma-sensitive curricula so that traumatized children are “Handled With Care”. If a child needs more intervention, on-site trauma-focused mental healthcare is available at the school.





ATTENTION:  
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, SCHOOL STAFF, LAW  
ENFORCEMENT, STUDENTS, & COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS !

NEED TRAINING, OR A REFRESHER ON ALL  
THINGS COURAGE2REPORT?

Email us! We would love to set that up with you!

[Courage2Reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:Courage2Reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov)

## MSBA'S CENTER FOR EDUCATION SAFETY

# Training Opportunity

**When: March 6 – 7, 2024**  
**8:00am - 5:00pm**

**Where: Stoney Creek Hotel, Columbia MO**  
**2601 S Providence Rd, Columbia, MO 65203**

Log into the [MSBA Portal](#), then  
**[REGISTER FOR THE SUMMIT HERE](#)** or call 573-445-9920

**\$99 per attendee | Materials and lunch is included**

#### **Hotel Accommodations:**

Contact Stoney Creek Hotel directly for room reservations: 1-800-659-2220 Rooms are \$99/night. Please use group code MOSBA0324 when reserving your room. Reservations must be made before February 4, 2024.

#### **Registration Questions:**

Email [registration@mosba.org](mailto:registration@mosba.org) or call 573-445-9920 for questions about registration.

#### **School Safety Questions:**

Email Glen Moore, [moore@mosba.org](mailto:moore@mosba.org) or call 573-445-9920, ext 416 for questions about the summit or school safety.

## Behavioral Risk Assessment Summit

Missouri School Boards' Association's Center for Education Safety (CES) will host a two-day summit for K-12 school threat management. Speakers include Lina Alathari, Dewey Cornell, Peter Langman, John Nicoletti, Melissa Reeves, and other experts in the field. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals and teams to learn from several of the world's leading experts in school safety.

If a school team has yet to receive basic training, a FREE pre-conference training day will be available on March 5. Log into the MSBA Portal and register for that [session only here](#) or select 'CES: Behavioral Risk Assessment Team Training - Registration \$0' from the Events drop down menu.


# Multiple Training Opportunities

- **Bomb Threat Preparedness and Response (AWR-903)**
- **Response to Suspicious Behaviors and Items (AWR-335)**
- **Bomb Threat Assessment for Decision Makers (AWR-945)**
- **Bomb Threat Management (BTM) Planning (MGT-451)**
- **Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Search Procedures (PER-339)**

**Click Here** 



## BOMBING PREVENTION ASSISTANCE FOR K-12 SCHOOLS



The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA's) Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) develops and delivers a diverse curriculum of training, awareness products, and technical assistance. These resources provide K-12 schools and districts with products, tools, and Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) strategies to protect, prevent, mitigate, and respond to bombing threats.

### TRAINING

#### Recommended for All School Employees

**Bomb Threat Preparedness and Response (AWR-903)**  
One-hour online independent study training to familiarize participants with the steps necessary to prepare for and respond to a bomb threat.

**Response to Suspicious Behaviors and Items (AWR-335)**  
One-hour Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT) introduces participants to recognizing and responding to suspicious behaviors, activities, and items related to terrorist or criminal activities.




#### Recommended for School Administrators and Security

**Bomb Threat Assessment for Decision Makers (AWR-945)**  
One-hour VILT introduces the participant to types of threats, the threat assessment process, and the implementation of a bomb threat management (BTM) plan.

**Bomb Threat Management (BTM) Planning (MGT-451)**  
One-day Instructor-Led Training (ILT) provides participants with an overview of the Department of Homeland Security's risk management process and BTM planning.


**Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Search Procedures (PER-339)**  
One-day ILT introduces participants to basic, low-risk search protocols. It provides participants with the information required to create a search plan for their facility or special event. It provides them guidance on how to perform IED searches of a route, area, and a facility.






### VIDEOS

**What to Do: Bomb Threat**  
Demonstrates procedures to follow when a bomb threat is received. This video will help individuals prepare and react appropriately.

**What to Do: Suspicious or Unattended Item**  
Demonstrates the criteria used to identify a suspicious item (potential bomb) and differentiate it from an unattended item. This video will help individuals prepare and react appropriately.



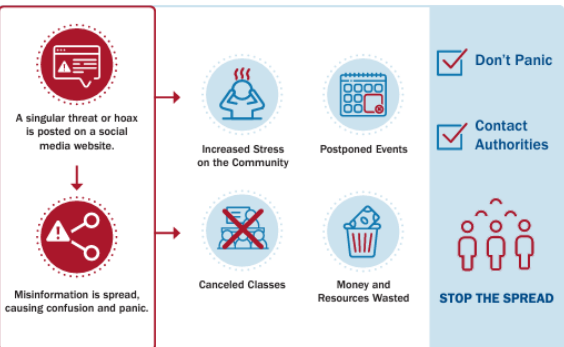
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# SOCIAL MEDIA THREAT GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOL STAFF AND AUTHORITIES

Technology has revolutionized the American school system, making education more accessible than ever before. However, the advancements and accessibility of various social media platforms continue to reveal new vulnerabilities and security gaps within the school threat landscape. In the United States, social media-based threats to school districts continue to rise; in 2022, school districts reported closing more frequently due to social media threats than for COVID-19 outbreaks. To support school safety stakeholders, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) created this infographic to provide actionable considerations for reporting and responding to social media threats directed at school districts.

All threats need to be taken seriously and treated as credible until law enforcement and a threat assessment team determine otherwise to keep the community, school, students and staff safe.



Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools across the country have experienced an increase in threats of violence that originate on social media.<sup>1</sup> In many incidents, these threats are unfounded, likely the result of a joke, hoax or prank by a student(s). Whether credible or not, a singular threat can lead to the spread of misinformation as well as an influx of threats in an area, possibly resulting in canceled events and an increased stress on the community, residents and resources.<sup>2</sup> This cycle—interspersed with an actual increase in school violence—impacts the mental health of students, often resulting in psychological problems such as depression or anxiety.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The School District of Philadelphia, 2021. "A Response to Threats of Violence on Social Media." Office of Communications. Accessed Aug. 29, 2022. [philad.org/blog/2021/12/16/schoolviolence/](https://philad.org/blog/2021/12/16/schoolviolence/)  
<sup>2</sup> Zalarek, Matt. 2022. "Social media threats are now closing schools more often than COVID." District Administration. Accessed Aug. 29, 2022. [districtadministration.com/student-behavior-on-social-media-is-now-a-bigger-threat-than-covid/](https://www.districtadministration.com/student-behavior-on-social-media-is-now-a-bigger-threat-than-covid/)  
<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2016. Understanding School Violence. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed Aug. 29, 2022. [cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/school\\_violence\\_fact\\_sheet\\_a.pdf#:~:text=Not%20all%20inquiries%20are%20visible,N20%20to%20ensure%20a%20safe%20school%20for%20all,20understanding%20school%20violence](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/school_violence_fact_sheet_a.pdf#:~:text=Not%20all%20inquiries%20are%20visible,N20%20to%20ensure%20a%20safe%20school%20for%20all,20understanding%20school%20violence)



## RESOURCES

**CISA School Safety**  
[cisa.gov/topics/physical-security/school-safety](https://www.cisa.gov/topics/physical-security/school-safety)

**Mitigating the Impacts of Doxing on Critical Infrastructure**  
[cisa.gov/resources/tools/resources/cisa-insights/mitigating-impacts-doxing-critical-infrastructure](https://www.cisa.gov/resources/tools/resources/cisa-insights/mitigating-impacts-doxing-critical-infrastructure)

**The Personal Security Considerations Fact Sheet**  
[cisa.gov/resources/tools/resources/personal-security-considerations-fact-sheet](https://www.cisa.gov/resources/tools/resources/personal-security-considerations-fact-sheet)

**Review Training, Exercises, and Drills for Additional Strategies and Resources**  
[SchoolSafety.gov](https://www.schoolsafety.gov)

**CISA Tabletop Exercise Packages (CTEPs)**  
[cisa.gov/resources/tools/services/cisa-tabletop-exercise-packages](https://www.cisa.gov/resources/tools/services/cisa-tabletop-exercise-packages)

**Fusion Center Locations and Contact Information**  
[dhs.gov/fusion-center-locations-and-contact-information](https://www.dhs.gov/fusion-center-locations-and-contact-information)

**Safe and Sound Schools**  
A nonprofit founded by Sandy Hook parents, educators, and community members.  
[safeandsoundschools.org](https://www.safeandsoundschools.org)

**Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS)**  
[rems.ed.gov](https://www.rems.ed.gov)

**What to Do - Bomb Threat**  
[cisa.gov/news-events/news/what-to-do-bomb-threat](https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/what-to-do-bomb-threat)

**The Priority Telecommunications Services (PTS)**  
[cisa.gov/resources/tools/programs/priority-telecommunications-services](https://www.cisa.gov/resources/tools/programs/priority-telecommunications-services)

## MITIGATION MEASURES<sup>4,5</sup>

Every school is unique, so there is no "boilerplate approach" plan or process that schools should follow. However, developing an **Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)** is a critical step for each school in creating a culture of readiness.

**Utilize the Readiness and Emergency Management in Schools (REMS) Toolkit** to receive free training on developing EOPs and Response Strategies. Training should include how to respond to social media threats for students and staff. This should include education and awareness about the seriousness of social media hoaxes.

**Develop relationships with local law enforcement and emergency services** as a part of the School Core Planning Team. Establish clear roles, responsibilities and expectations.

**Build on prior knowledge, experience, and federal data to identify possible threats** and hazards and assess the vulnerabilities and risks associated with these threats and hazards. Decide which of these threats and hazards need to be addressed in the school and develop goals and objectives for each one.

**Develop detailed courses of action to address each of the goals and objectives decided upon by the school.** This includes identifying who is responsible for the action, how long the action will take and what needs to happen before and after the action, as well as considering how these actions will affect individuals that require special needs, access, evacuation and other services.

**Acquire official approval of the EOP** and ensure its distribution amongst all community partners.

**Continuously test and evaluate security protocols and EOPs.** This involves ensuring the staff understands and is trained on protocols surrounding reporting threats to social media and law enforcement before an incident occurs.

**Enroll in Priority Telecommunications Services** to ensure first responders and school administration can utilize potentially overwhelmed telephone networks.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Justice. 2013. *Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans*. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Accessed Aug. 8, 2022. [rems.ed.gov/oeop/REMS\\_1612\\_Guide\\_508.pdf](https://www.ed.gov/oeop/REMS_1612_Guide_508.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, n.d. *K-12 School Security Guide Product Suite*. Accessed Aug. 8, 2022. [cisa.gov/k12-school-security-guide-product-suite](https://www.cisa.gov/k12-school-security-guide-product-suite)

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Justice. n.d. *FBI Threat Intimidation Guide*. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Accessed Aug. 8, 2022. [fbi.gov/investigate/courtesy/intelligence/threat-intimidation-guide](https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/courtesy/intelligence/threat-intimidation-guide)

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Department of Justice. 2018. "Think Before You Post: Hoax Threats are Serious Federal Crimes." Federal Bureau of Investigation. Last modified Oct. 5, 2018. [fbi.gov/news/stories/hoax-threats-awareness-100518](https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/hoax-threats-awareness-100518)

Establishing mitigation and response protocols is an important part of a school's security **planning strategy** and reinforces a culture of preparedness that can enable early threat identification to protect the community, school, students and staff.

## RESPONSE MEASURES<sup>6,7</sup>

Fortunately, many social media threats can be traced, allowing law enforcement to follow up with the individual who posted the threat and conduct an interview to determine credibility. **It is a criminal offense to make a threat against a school system and it is possible that the person in question could be charged with a felony.** Police advise treating every threat seriously.

Click Here For PDF

Click Here For Link To Website

# Change in Missouri Legislation (Sunshine Law)

**Effective - 28 Aug 2023**

A new statute has been added to **RSMo 610.021** which covers “Closed meetings and closed records authorized when, exceptions.”

Section 18, subsection (b) was added and states, “Any information or data provided to a tip line for the purpose of safety or security at an educational institution that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public.”

Section 18, subsection (c) states, “Any information contained in any suspicious activity report provided to law enforcement that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public.”

**Relevancy: All Courage2Report tips have additional protection from open record requests such as Missouri's Sunshine Law and the Freedom of Information Act.**



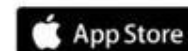
**NEW**

**INTRODUCING A NEW WAY TO  
SUBMIT A TIP, YOU CAN NOW TEXT  
“C2R” TO 738477. YOU WILL BE  
SENT A LINK THAT BRINGS YOU TO  
THE SUBMISSION FORM.**

Remember, we can give you a link to post on your school website, to provide students, parents and staff members an easy way to access the tip submission form unique to your school building(s). Let us know if we can provide that to you.

**Courage2Report Missouri**

**SAY**  
Something to Someone!



**Confidentially Report Concerns - 24/7**

**Submit a tip:**

Mobile app: **Courage2ReportMO** 

Online: [www.Courage2ReportMO.com](http://www.Courage2ReportMO.com)

Call: 866-748-7047

Text: “C2R” to 738477

NEED SUPPLIES?  
LET US KNOW.



- BROCHURES
- BOOKMARKS
- MAGNETS
- PENCILS
- POSTERS

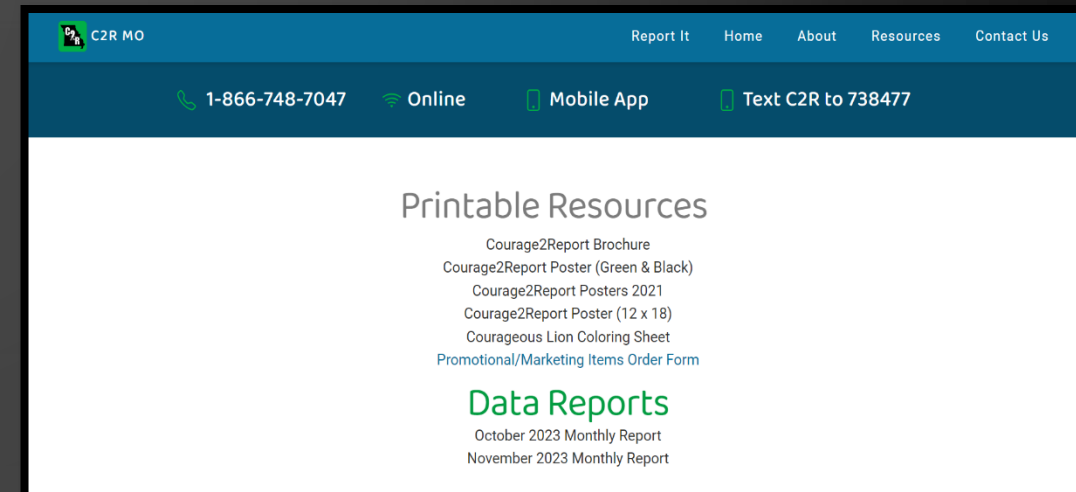


# COURAGE2REPORTMO.COM

- Starting February 2024 all monthly bulletins will be posted to our website shown to the right.
- Once on our website, you can click the “Resources” tab at the top of the page. There you will find not just our bulletins, but many other useful items.



Click the pictures for the link!





# CONTACT US:

Courage2Report

Missouri State Highway Patrol -

MIAC. Call: 866-362-6422

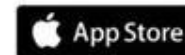
(Administrative Calls) Email:

[Courage2Reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:Courage2Reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov)

Website: [Courage2ReportMO.com](http://Courage2ReportMO.com)

**Courage2Report Missouri**

**SAY**  
Something to Someone!



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