

As our nation approached the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) launched a new tool for citizens to utilize in their efforts to help reduce crime.

The effort is in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) "See Something, Say Something" initiative.

The Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) site accessed through the NSP webpage provides citizens a method in which to alert law enforcement to the possibility of suspicious behaviors.

By clicking on Suspicious Activity Report in the Quick Links box on the NSP homepage, citizens will access the SAR portal which opens a detailed questionnaire for the reporting party to provide information on suspicious activities or events they believe should be shared with law enforcement.

"The SAR tool is another way for citizens to help keep our communities safe by reporting suspect activity," said Colonel David Sankey, superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. "Nebraskans are very observant and have good instincts, if they believe something isn't right, the SAR tool provides them a way to make us aware of their concerns."

Once the on-line form is completed and submitted, NSP will analyze the data and compile the information into a report for dissemination to the appropriate agencies.

The SAR tool is a function of the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC).

Created in 2007, the NIAC serves as the Fusion Center for the State of Nebraska and is a collaborative effort of the NSP, Omaha Police Department (OPD), Lincoln Police Department (LPD), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Housed by NSP, the goal of the NIAC is to provide an avenue for Nebraska law enforcement agencies and participating private partners to validate, analyze and share information on all crimes and all hazards.

Col. Sankey said, "The NIAC grew out of the terrible tragedy that was 9/11. The Fusion Center concept allows the Nebraska State Patrol, working in conjunction with our Federal, State and Local partners to provide yet another dimension of service to the citizens of Nebraska."