



CAPE MAY COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE SAFE PLACE



What is the CMCPPO's SAFE PLACE Initiative?

This concept of a "Safe Place" was developed by the Seattle Police Department in 2015 to assist the victims of Hate Crimes and Student Bullying. The CMCPPO Safe Place is designed to do the same thing, as well as assist in making communities of Cape May County a safer place to live. The Safe Place Initiative has been adopted by over 342 law enforcement jurisdictions throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe.

This program is for **ALL Hate Crimes**, which include **Race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, mental, physical, or sensory disabilities, homelessness, marital status, political ideology, age or parental status.**

This program helps individuals to eliminate the victim mentality and adopt a victor mentality. It says to any victim that they will be heard and treated with care, dignity, and respect from the business they enter to find assistance, as well as from the Police Officers who are consigned to investigate.

About the Safe Place Decal

The Safe Place symbol is a trademarked logo by the Seattle Police Department and authorized to be used across the country after fulfilling all the requirements by the requesting police department. The symbol depicts a police shield surrounding the rainbow colors that traditionally have symbolized the LGBTQ+ community since the 1970s. The intent of the rainbow symbolizes inclusion of every person, every sexual identity, and every race equality.

The Safe Place decal is meant to convey inclusion and intersectionality with all individuals, regardless of their race, political beliefs, nationality, age, gender, sexual orientation and/or identification, or any other differences either actual or perceived. The CMCPPO Safe Place is **not designated for residential use**.

In 2018, the language on all decals was updated to encourage the reporting of all bias crimes, in all communities, not just LGBTQ+.

Which Businesses, Public Places & Social Organizations can participate in CMCPPO SAFE PLACE?

ALL businesses, public places and social organization located in Cape May County can participate in the CMCPPO SAFE PLACE Initiative, as long as they follow the two requirements listed below. The CMCPPO Safe Place Program is **FREE** to join, and **ZERO COST** to any business, public place, or social organization.

What are my responsibilities to join?

Although participation is a voluntary, there are responsibilities to become a member of CMCPPO Safe Place. That responsibility is simple, quick, and free. It requires you to train/educate your employees/staff and management to do two things:

1. **If a victim of any crime (especially a hate crime) enters your premises, call 911 immediately.**
2. **Allow the victim to remain on your premise until police arrive.**
If the victim leaves prior to police arrival, call 911 back and provide a physical description of the victim and/or suspect(s), direction of travel and any injuries that you may have observed. As with any emergency situation your staff should use due care and caution when providing victims of crime

safe shelter, while being mindful of the safety of your patrons, co-workers and compliance with existing company policies. There is no extra liability to your business as we are not asking you to do anything you wouldn't already do if a victim comes into your business.

How do I become a CMCPO SAFE PLACE participant?

Simply log into **CMCPROS.net** and click the **Safe Place tab** or use the **QR code**. Your application will be sent directly to the Cape May County Prosecutor's Safe Place Coordinator who mail out your window decal and welcome packet.

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