

**BRADENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
BUSINESS TRESPASS PROGRAM**

Dear Business Owner/Agent,

Thank you for your interest in the Bradenton Police Department's Business Trespass Program.

In an effort to make our community a safer place to live, work and shop, the Bradenton Police Department has created the Business Trespass Program (BTP). Participants in the program authorize all Bradenton Police Officers to enforce Florida trespass statutes, on their property, when the Owner/Agent is not present.

The program is designed to obtain written authorization from each business, corporation, or individual that owns or manages a commercial property. Certain "authorized private property owners" may also participate in this program. Once written authorization is obtained, program signage must be purchased and installed, identifying the location as a program participant. At the completion of the registration process, all Bradenton Police Officers will be lawfully authorized to enforce Florida trespass statutes, in the absence of an Owner/Agent, on the registered property.

There are three key benefits of participation.

1. As a program participant, you will no longer be required to come out to your property, at unusual hours, to issue your own trespass warnings.
2. As a program participant, your registered property will be less prone to loitering, disorderly conduct or, other unlawful activity.
3. As a program participant, your registered property will project a more positive public image.

If you would like to participate in this program, please read the enclosed information and instruction sheet. Complete the enclosed forms, and return them with a copy of a survey/property plot, to the Bradenton Police Department, Attention: Crime Prevention Unit.

Thank you for your support of our efforts to keep the City of Bradenton a safe and prosperous community. We look forward to continuing the productive relationship we have experienced in the past. If the Department can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact us at (941) 932-9300.

Sincerely,

Michael Radzilowski
Chief of Police

BRADENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
BUSINESS TRESPASS PROGRAM

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

PROGRAM CONCEPT

The Business Trespass Program is designed to provide, commercial property owners, certain private property owners, and the Bradenton Police Department with a tool to help identify and reduce the opportunity for criminal activity to occur on participating properties. This program allows duly authorized law enforcement officers to act as an authorized agent of the participating business or property. The primary objective of the program is to deter and/or eliminate criminal activity, city wide, by enrolling as many program participants as possible. The success of this program depends upon the strong participation and support of our business community. The following information and instructions are provided to help guide you through the registration process.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Participation in the Business Trespass Program is absolutely voluntary.
2. Participation is offered to;
 - A. Business establishments, commercial properties and their outlying areas.
 - B. Public properties, such as schools, government facilities, churches and "authorized private property owners".
3. Participants **must** register with the Bradenton Police Department Crime Prevention Unit.
4. Participants **must** complete an "Affidavit of Authorization" **annually**.
5. Participants **must** bear the cost of purchasing the approved program trespass warning signs (**\$ 7.75 ea.**) and installing them as designated by the Bradenton Police Department.
6. Participation is **not** transferable with change of business ownership or location. Should ownership or business location change, the registered participant shall notify the Bradenton police department Crime Prevention Unit so that their registration and "Affidavit of Authorization" can be cancelled. Under new ownership or new business location, the owner/lessee must complete the entire registration process in order to participate in the Business Trespass Program.

****NOTES:** This program is only enforced when the business is closed and **NO** employees/owners/lessees are on the premises.

This program will **NOT** be enforced unless **ALL** signs are properly posted. All signs shall be replaced or relocated by the participant, as is necessary, to ensure that the public notice requirements are met. It is the responsibility of the participant to periodically inspect all signage for deterioration, damage or defacement.

It is the responsibility of the participant to **REMOVE ALL B.T.P. SIGNS** when program participation is **NO LONGER ACTIVE**.

REGISTRATION

Business – Is a lawfully licensed and operating business that is housed with-in a fixed structure, within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Bradenton. Abandoned or vacant commercial properties may satisfy this definition.

Authorized Private Property Owner – Is the owner of real property that shares a property line with a program participating business. Properties that are for rent, or lease, shall not be considered as authorized private properties.

1. Any business or authorized private property owner wishing to participate in the Business Trespass Program, may obtain a registration packet from any Bradenton Police Department Law Enforcement Officer; or contact the Bradenton Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at (941) 932-9365.
2. The Business Trespass Program Registration Packet shall include the following;
 - A. Welcome letter
 - B. Participant information and instructions
 - C. B.T.P. Registration form
 - D. B.T.P. Affidavit of Authorization
3. Businesses and authorized private property owners wishing to register in the Bradenton Trespass Program must complete the Affidavit of Authorization and Registration Form. Register each individual business and/or property separately.
4. The Affidavit of Authorization form **must** be signed in front of a Notary Public. Bradenton Police Officers are **not** authorized to notarize program forms.
5. **RETURN THE COMPLETED AND NOTARIZED FORMS, WITH A COPY OF THE PROPERTY SURVEY OR PROPERTY PLOT TO:**

Bradenton Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit
100 W. 10th St.
Bradenton, FL 34205

6. Upon receipt of the completed forms and survey/plot plan, the registrant will be contacted by a member of the Crime Prevention Unit and be scheduled for a "Trespass Sign Survey" of the registered property. Recommendations will be made as to the minimum number of signs required and the most effective location for their posting.
7. Upon completion of the sign survey, the surveying officer will issue the "Authorization To Purchase B.T.P. Signs" form and the general guidelines for the posting of program signage.

8. Post all signs as recommended.
9. Once all signs have been posted, as recommended, contact the Bradenton Police Department Crime Prevention Unit (941) 932-9365 and schedule a final inspection of the posted signage.
10. Once the final inspection is complete and approved, the property's participation in Trespass Program will be activated.

RENEWAL

1. Program participation is authorized for a period of 1 year, from the date of program activation, and **must** be renewed.
2. Program participants wishing to renew their participation, in the "B.T.P." **must** provide the Bradenton Police Department with a new "Affidavit of Authorization" within 10 business days prior to the program expiration date.
3. Participants failing to provide the required documentation, prior to the expiration of their participation, shall be terminated from the program.
4. Participants who are terminated from the "B.T.P.", shall remove all "B.T.P." signs from the property.
5. Terminated participants who renew their participation in the "B.T.P.", within 30 calendar days of termination may, at the discretion of the Crime Prevention Officer, be reactivated under their most recent program identification number. This may only be done once, per registered location.
6. Terminated participants who wish to renew their participation in the "B.T.P.", later than 30 days from their termination from the program, must restart the registration process and, if approved, be issued a new program number.