



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SHOPLIFTING PREVENTION®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DETEX: Quietly Providing Resources Needed to Turn Lives Around and Reduce the Cost of Repeat Offenses

Melville NY – 6/1/2020 – The coronavirus pandemic has had an impact on people from all walks of life. It has created new realities for all of us but for some the impact has been particularly profound. NASP Executive Director Caroline Kochman noted, “We see the impact in the comments of the offenders we educate and we see it in the increase in calls for assistance from our criminal justice partners – in the call for reduced and waived fees for the vulnerable and for people coping with a frightening new reality.”

One of the first actions of the recently launched National Shoplifting Prevention Coalition (NSPC) - launched just 6 months before we learned of the coronavirus threat - was to establish an Education Support Fund. Its aim is to ensure that both offenders and communities in need can have access to the education necessary to prevent repeat shoplifting offenses – a critical factor in reducing the cost of repeat offenders’ retailers bottom line.

Detex Corporation – as one of the founding service providers in the NSPC, is leading the way. A generous grant from Detex in support of offender education, has allowed NASP to answer the call for assistance from its criminal justice clients and provide education to many of the most vulnerable offenders including an at-risk youth from New Jersey and a single mom from Texas.

The youth from New Jersey is in foster care, has an ADHD diagnosis and is on the autism spectrum. Because of several recent incidents, there was talk of placing the youth out of his home. This young person’s participation in the Youth Educational Shoplifting Program, which was fully funded by the Detex grant, helped get him on the right path, thus preventing another trauma for this vulnerable youth during these already scary times.

The single mom from Texas has two small children. Her financial situation had recently worsened due to the death of her husband from Covid-19. In this case, the grant assisted this young mother in meeting her responsibilities, completing the required SA Course education and preventing a repeat offense.

“Detex is a proud supporter of the NSPC and its shoplifter education fund,” said Detex’s Tim Shafer. “Seeing the impact of our grant in human terms is truly profound. Many more shoplifters than we realize are just people struggling in life who simply need a leg up to turn them away from a life of shoplifting and crime. Providing that leg up is good corporate citizenship – it’s a benefit to them, to retailers and to our society.”

I was temporarily laid off from work. I had lack of money and needed to conserve money but provide food for my household during stressful times

Courtney – Caught at Kroger

It’s a very stressful time for me and my wife. I had lost my job and were in need of food for my five children. I tried going to food banks asking friends family for help but to no luck so I took a risk and shoplifted.

Jonathan - Caught at Walmart

I lost my job. I felt alone and stressed and I needed things and I didn’t have the money so that’s why I did it. I am so ashamed of myself and it will never happen again.

Ella – Caught at Target

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About Detex:

For more than a century, Detex has earned the trust of millions of property owners to secure and protect their people and property. From our newest innovations in life safety and security door hardware, integrated door security systems, and guard tour verification technologies to our original Watchman's clocks, Detex, a USA company, designs, manufactures, markets and ships our products from New Braunfels, TX and is recognized as a best-in-class life safety, security and security assurance solutions provider, worldwide.

About the National Shoplifting Prevention Coalition (NSPC):

Launched in 2019 by the NASP Retail Advisory Committee, NSPC is a coalition of leading retail industry and asset protection professionals taking collective action to mitigate the impact of criminal justice reforms on shrink and safety, leverage proven offender education to reduce recidivism and champion community-centric strategies to address shoplifting – both in stores and the wider community.

About NASP:

Incorporated in 1989 as a non-profit organization under IRS code 501(c)(3), the National Association for Shoplifting Prevention is the nation's leading provider of shoplifter education programs. Trusted by more than 4,000 criminal justice professionals in 2,000 jurisdictions around the U.S., NASP's offense-specific education programs have a court-documented recidivism rate of less than 3%. NASP's mission is to raise public awareness about the harmful effects of shoplifting on youth, families and communities, unite public opinion toward constructive solutions, deliver needed programs and services and engage community action in prevention efforts to improve the lives of those affected and reduce the number of people who become involved. All NASP efforts are driven by one overarching goal – to reduce shoplifter recidivism.