



**RICHLAND COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**
WWW.RCSD.NET (803) 576-3000
LEON LOTT, SHERIFF



Region Two Newsletter

2500 Decker Boulevard (803) 576-3444

Sheriff Warns Citizens to Beware of Social Media Dating Sites

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott is warning citizens to be careful when using social media dating sites such as Tinder, POF (Plenty of Fish), and others for safety reasons.

Sheriff Leon Lott stated that the Richland County Sheriff's Department is investigating several incidents of "catfishing" associated with strong armed robberies. The Sheriff stated that catfishing is when internet predators fabricate themselves online using fake identities, for the purpose of tricking people into relationships, financial scams, robberies, and sexual assaults.

The Sheriff offers the following tips:

- Do not give out your personal information
- Do not meet anyone outside of a public location, make sure that there are plenty of people around
- Take your time when you talk about yourself, do not give out your life-story the first time you chat – plenty of time for that later
- Tell a friend, better yet if and when you feel comfortable enough to meet, take a friend with you
- Never leave your drink unattended
- Keep your purse, wallet, phone, and personal items with you
- Check your privacy settings on ALL of your social media platforms
- Be careful when accessing your account from a public or shared computer
- Be wary of opening up email attachments from someone you have only just met
- Ensure that you keep your internet security software up to date
- Money requests are a red light

Sheriff Leon Lott is asking that if you or someone you know may have been a victim to please come forward. It doesn't matter how long ago it may have happened, what's important is that we get you the proper care and guidance. Remember if you have any information about this crime or the identity of any suspects we urge you to call, email or text your anonymous tip to:

Anyone with information on the identity of those responsible is asked to call, email or text your anonymous tip to:

crimestoppers
1-888-CRIME-SC
www.sccrimestoppers.com

Text "TIPSC plus your message" to CRIMES (274637)

RCSD MISSION STATEMENT

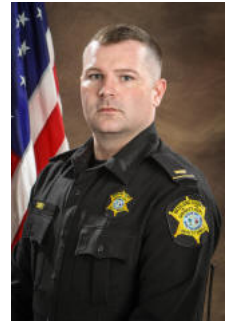
It is the mission of the Richland County Sheriff's Department to improve the quality of life for ALL citizens. Through passion and commitment, we will maintain a high standard of professional accountability and will reduce the fear of crime and the fear of retaliation by the criminal element.

The mission will be accomplished by building unity between the Sheriff's Department and the community; joining our high standards of excellence with our vision for safer communities. Everyone will employ effective community policing strategies and problem-solving techniques, all supported by aggressive enforcement of federal, state and local laws

Region 2 Command Staff



Capt. Soto



Lt. Duke

September 2017

Captains Corner	2
Important Numbers	2
Safety & Prevention	3/4
Child Safety	5
Community Events	6
Deputy Spotlight	7
Community Meetings	8

A Message from Captain Soto



Criminals Continue to Target Vehicles

The Richland County Sheriff's Department's Motor Vehicle Theft Unit would like to alert citizens to be vigilant in order to keep your vehicle safe from thieves:

- Never leave anything of value in plain view or inside your vehicle (i.e. electronics, purses, money, shopping bags, etc.) --- keep it safe, keep it hidden, and keep it locked
- Before you get to your i.e.. mall, grocery store, etc.) store your pocketbook, bags or other items in the trunk as criminals could be watching you
- When storing items inside your vehicle, be mindful of your surroundings so that no one can see where you are placing your belongings
- Park your vehicle in a well lit location
- Always remember to lock your doors when exiting your vehicle, make sure that the windows are completely rolled up.
- Never leave your vehicle running, even if you will only be gone a minute
- Never leave the registration or title in your vehicle
- Install an anti-theft device or system on your vehicle as an extra deterrent
- Never leave your garage door opener inside your vehicle especially if your car is parked in front of your house
- Never leave a gun in your vehicle.

Important Numbers

911: Emergencies and crimes in progress

252-2911: Non Emergency dispatch number

576-3000: Sheriff's Department.

576-3444: Region 2

929-6000: Reporting non-criminal issues, such as, street signs, drainage overgrown property, etc. Ombudsman's Office

551-1149 Traffic Enforcement

576-3115 Victim Services

576-3151: Civil Process

576-1864 Code Enforcement

Email Contacts

Capt. Soto
dsoto@rcsd.net

Lt. Duke
cduke@rcsd.net

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Sheriff Leon Lott stated that as we near the anniversary of the historic flood of 2015; which reminds us to be prepared both while on the road, and at home. The Sheriff stated that hurricane season is here and even though we haven't been hit by any storms yet he wants to remind everyone that you have to take the time to be prepared.

The Sheriff is providing two lists (one for your vehicle and one for your family) of things you need that will help assist when disaster strikes. Please take the time to prepare for a natural disaster which could mean the difference between survival or becoming a victim.

- First responders may not always be able to get it to you in a timely manner, so having enough supplies to last for a two to three day period is imperative. The Sheriff recommends that you have the following items on hand in the event of a natural disaster:
- One gallon of water per person per day (3 days worth)
- Food– At least three-day supply of non perishable food
- Battery powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dusk mask to help filter contaminate air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter in place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench and or/pliers turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger
- Prescription meds, glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash and change
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof portable container
- Emergency reference material such as first aid book
- Sleeping bag with warm blanket for each person
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeve shirt, long pants, and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing depending on a season

Have you had Richland County Sheriff's Department out to your house or business to conduct a FEEE 20 minute security analysis be calling 576-3033

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CONT....

- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted, nine parts water to one part bleach, it can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire Extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games and or activities for children

First Aid kit

- Two pairs of latex or other sterile gloves if you are allergic to latex
- Sterile dressing to stop bleeding
- Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic ointment
- Burn ointment
- Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes.
- Eye wash solution
- Thermometer
- Aspirin or non –aspirin pain reliever
- Anti diarrhea medication
- Antacid

For the Baby

- Formula
- Diapers
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Medications
- Moist towelettes or baby wipes
- Diaper or rash ointments

Sheriff Leon Lott also states that we should all have a plan in place, so meet with your family and discuss what to do in the event of an emergency. Decide the responsibilities for each member of the family or household. The Sheriff adds that proper planning saves lives! If you need more information about putting together your “Go Kits” please call our Community Action Team at 803-309-5070.

Child Safety

Sheriff Leon Lott encourages families to talk about the potential dangers of strangers and the various emergencies that could occur when you are home and when you are away from home.

Sheriff Leon Lott reminds parents to have a secret code word that can be used in the case of an emergency, and if someone tells you that you need to come with them, you can ask them for the code word. If they do not know the code word, you should run away from them.

Sheriff Leon Lott reminds students to stay away from strangers and that grownups should NOT ask kids to do things that other adults could do for them.

Sheriff Leon Lott states if you lose your parents in a public place, do not go looking for them. Immediately ask someone who works there to help you find them. Tell them you have been separated from your parents and you need help finding them.

Sheriff Leon Lott reminds students to always ask your parents or an adult in charge for permission before:

- going anywhere with anybody
- Leaving the yard, play area, or going into someone's home
- Getting a ride home with someone other than your usual ride
- Getting into a car or going with somebody even if it's someone you know

Sheriff Leon Lott states once you have permission from your parents:

- tell them where you are going
- Tell them how you will get there
- Tell them who will be going with you
- Tell them when you will be back

Sheriff Leon Lott adds as always try to get back on time or call to let them know when you will be back!

Topics of Discussion:

1. What can parents do to ensure their child's safety while out shopping or while playing in the neighborhood?
2. What other safety tips can you provide to citizens?
3. Can parents look online to find helpful safety tips for the entire family?

Have you had Richland County Sheriff's Department out to your house or business to conduct a FREE 20 minute security analysis by calling 576-3033

FREE
Self-Defense Classes for Women

Sheriff Leon Lott is offering this course to empower and provide women with a method of defense in the event you are attacked. Sheriff's Deputies will teach you techniques that use your strengths, as a woman, to defend yourself.

Citizens should contact the Richland County Sheriff's Department Victim Services Unit for more information at 576-3463 or www.rcsd.net.

The next class offered:

September 30, 2017 – 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM at Richland Library Ballentine Branch,
1321 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo

RSVP: Deputy Nina Mauldin (803) 576-3086

nmauldin@rcsd.net



Anyone with information on the identity of those responsible is asked to call, email or text your anonymous tip to:

crimestoppers
1-888-CRIME-SC
www.sccrimestoppers.com

Deputy Spotlight

DEPUTY SPOTLIGHT

Laquan Sumpter

Birthplace: Sumter, South Carolina

How long with RCSD: 6 months

Favorite saying or quote: Wisdom makes difficult problems look easy

In my spare time I like to: Lift weights and photography

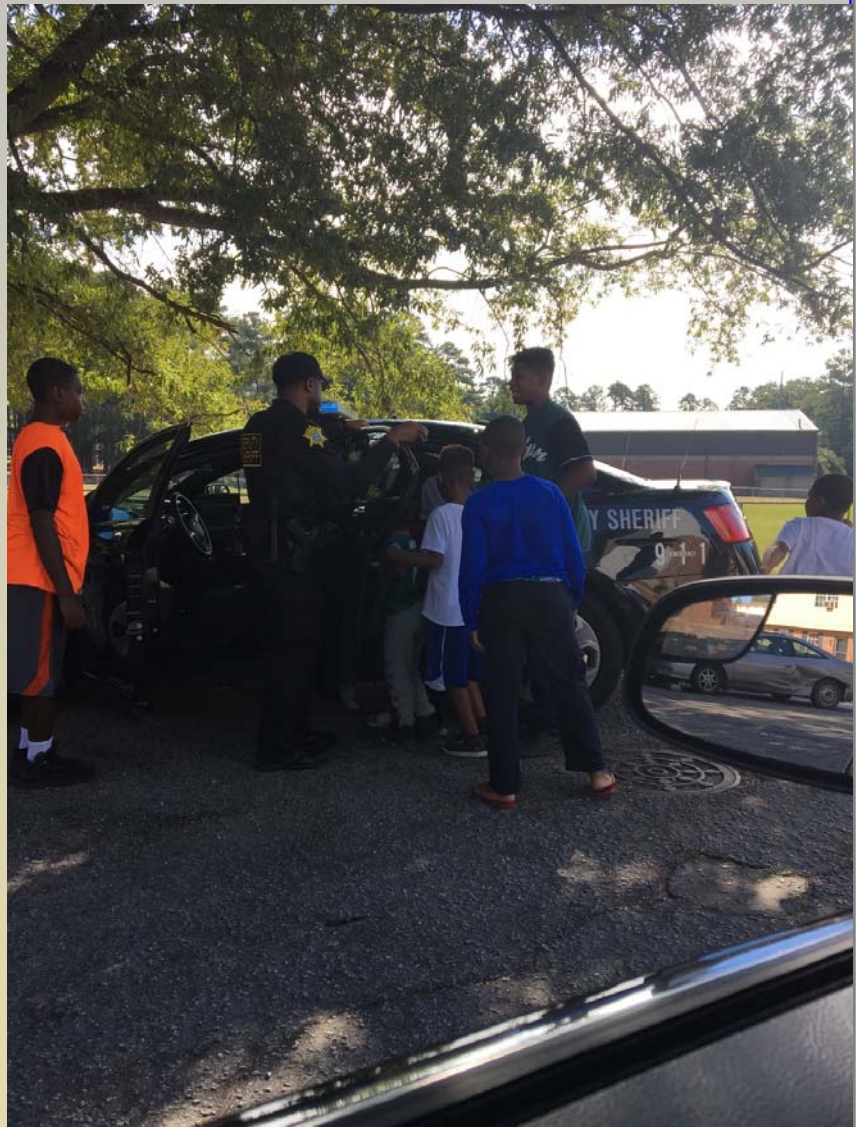
If I could have any job in the world: Professional photographer

When I need a lift I like to: Box and lift weights

My favorite TV show: Martin

The best advice I ever got: Be nice to folks because you never know who your really talking to

Education: Benedict College



COMMUNITY MEETINGS

September 2017

Community	Meeting Location	Date	Time
Arcadia Lakes	Arcadia Lakes Town Hall	09/07/2017	6:00p
Springwood Lake	Region 2 HQ	09/09/2017	12:30p
Melrose Park	1500 Fairview; Public Park	09/11/2017	7:00p
Wellesley Place Condos	3630 Ranch Road Office	09/12/2017	2:00p
Christopher Towers	805 Devine Street	09/12/2017	6:00p
Trenholm Acres	Trenholm Acres Comm. Center	09/12/2017	6:30p
Belvedere Community	Burton Pack Elementary	09/14/2017	6:00p
Forest Acres Neighborhood Association	Good Shepard Lutheran	09/19/2017	7:00p
Lionsgate Pt 1/2	Pool Hall	09/20/2017	5:30p
Charleswood	Region 2 HQ	09/21/2017	7:00p
Pinehurst	Pinhurst Park Rec Center	09/21/2017	7:00p
Drexel Lake Neighborhood	Little Pigs, Alpine Road	09/21/2017	6:30p
Farrowood Estates	Region 2 HQ	09/26/2017	7:00p
Newcastle Community	Newcastle Comm. Center	09/28/2017	6:30p

