



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



LEON LOTT, SHERIFF

Region Three Newsletter

6429 Bishop Avenue, Columbia, SC 29203 (803) 576-2215

Message from the Sheriff

Operation Full Armor was a major four-day sting operation led by Richland County Sheriff's Department – involving multiple local, state and federal agencies - led to the arrest of 18 persons suspected of being child predators here in Richland County. Undercover law enforcement officers created online personas of young girls to correspond with travelers. I hope Operation Full Armor can serve as a sobering reminder to us all that predators aren't coming out of the closet or from under the bed; they're sitting behind a computer grooming victims over the internet. Take this opportunity to speak with your children about the dangers of communicating with people they don't know online. As parent we must remain vigilant to being aware of what our children are doing online and monitor who they are communicating with. If utilized appropriately technology can be a great tool, but unfortunately it's a tool that criminals have learned to exploit. The last thing we want is for our children to fall victim to these monsters. Stay safe!

RCSD MISSION STATEMENT

"It is our mission, as trusted public servants, to prevent crime and the fear of crime by providing excellence in law enforcement services, accountability and connections with our communities."



Capt. McManus

Lt. Potter

August 2018

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Richland County Sheriff's Department offers Personal Safety Tips

Sheriff Leon Lott states that staying safe should be a priority for everyone. However, busy schedules, time constraints and routines often result in us providing criminals opportunities to make us victims. By taking a few simple precautions, you can discourage criminals and reduce your chances of becoming a victim.

Report all suspicious activity, persons and cars to the police immediately. Nothing is too small to be reported.

Do not open your door to anyone you do not know.

Put your address (numerical #s) on your mailbox or at the street for emergency personnel.

Do not leave valuable items in plain view of windows (either in your home or cars).

Do not "Flash" cash, credit cards or your wallet contents when making purchases. Know what you are going to pay with before you go to the counter.

Leave a radio or TV on when you leave the house.

Put lights on alternating timers when you leave home and do not disconnect them when you are home.

Cut all bushes and trees back from around windows and doors to avoid hiding spots and shadows.

Outside floodlights should be left on from dusk to dawn. REMOVE motion detectors and put in timers.

If you arrive home and find an open window or door, or see a suspicious person or vehicle, call 911 from a neighbor's phone. Don't go inside!

Do not give personal information out over the phone. Be aware of scams.

Do not stop Delivery of your mail and newspaper when you travel.

Always park in well-lighted locations and go shopping with a friend.

Be alert at all times!! Be aware of who is watching you.

Get to know your neighbors. Get involved in a neighborhood watch.

Important Numbers

911: Emergencies and crimes in progress

252-2911: Non Emergency dispatch number

576-3000: Sheriff's Department.

576-3200: Alvin S. Glen Detention Center

929-6000: Reporting non-criminal issues, Ombudsman's Office

576-3115: Victim Services

576-3151: Civil Process

576-1864: Code Enforcement

Guide to Prevent Carjacking

- .Keep doors locked and windows up.
- Do not stop to assist disabled motorist. Instead, contact the Sheriff's Department or Highway Patrol.
- When stopped at a light, leave enough room between you and the car in front, so you will be able to escape if the need arises.
- Be suspicious of anyone approaching your car.
- While driving, if struck from behind or in any suspicious way, stay in your vehicle with the doors locked and windows closed until law enforcement arrives.

If you think you are being followed, drive immediately to an area with lots of lights and people. If possible drive to the nearest law enforcement office or call 911 on a cell phone if one is available.

For more safety tips please contact the Richland County Sheriff's Department Community Action Team at (803) 576-3191 or log on at www.rcsd.net and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/OfficialRCSDPage>

Upcoming Events in August:

Tuesday August 7 , 2018

Saturday August 11 from 11-3:00 pm

Back to School Basketball Bash

Polo Road Park



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Region Three

Community Action Team Representatives



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