



Region Four Newsletter

1019 Beatty Road, Columbia, SC 29210 (803) 576-3490

Project Lifesaver

In keeping with his desire to provide service to every citizen, no matter the need, Sheriff Leon Lott researched and obtained information on a great program that could safeguard our "at risk wanderers" within our communities. Sheriff Lott immediately knew this was a program he wanted to bring to our citizens because he saw a way to give some peace of mind to those whom might wander away from their homes and for those who love and care for them.

Project Lifesaver is the only organization that is allowed to electronically track human beings. It was designed to protect our "at risk wanderers" who suffer from Alzheimer's, children of Autism and those with Down Syndrome and other brain disorders which may lead them to wander. The concept came from King North Carolina at the Stokes County Mountain Rescue where they were providing hikers and campers who entered the State Park a transmitter in case they got lost while on their travels within the park. The Rescue service would collect the transmitters from the guests when they left the park. Project Lifesaver adopted this idea, and with the Federal Government stating Project Lifesaver could electronically track "at risk wanderers", Project Lifesaver was born.

Today, Project Lifesaver has conducted over 2,900 searches with a 100% recovery rate. A normal search would take Law Enforcement an estimated 9 hours at \$2,500 per hour per search and sometimes using hundreds of officers and volunteers. With those costs and time frames, recovery rates were low and agencies were depleting their budgets with these costly searches. With Project Lifesaver, the search time is dramatically decreased to an estimated 30 minutes per search, with using about 10 officers total for the whole operation. RCSD utilizes the ground units which can track by vehicle or on foot and by air with our helicopter.

The concept is very easy. A caregiver would call Project Hope, who does our client management, and lets them know they are interested in enrolling their loved one in the program. Project Hope would send out one of their techs and make a home visit. There, the caregiver would receive the paperwork on the program and would be advised of the conditions of the program. If the caregiver/loved one are accepted to the program, they will receive a transmitter for their loved one.

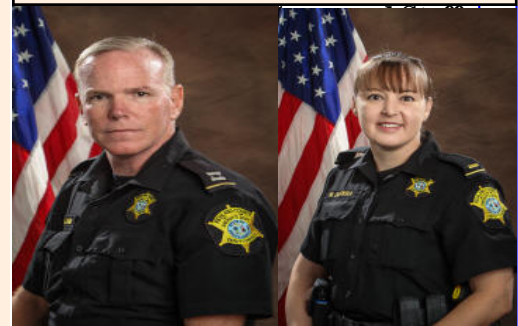
If a client wanders off from their caregiver, the caregiver will call a predetermined number from the program and activate Project Lifesaver. Responding officers will use their training, equipment and knowledge of the program to bring that loved one home.

Richland County Sheriff's Department does not charge Richland County residents or their loved ones who are "at risk wanderers" to be on the program.

If you would like to have more information about this program or you may think this program would benefit your family please contact Capt Bill Brown at 576-3183 or email Phope@rcsd.net

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. Odom Lt. Zalewska

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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.

Sheriff Leon Lott asks that you use caution when you use any dating website or apps. 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

Watch the photo's that you post that may have revealing information in them; location, school, neighborhood

Check your privacy settings on ALL of your social media platforms

Consider having a private account for family and friends

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

Report unacceptable or suspicious behavior

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:

For more holiday 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>

Region Four

Community Action Team Representatives



Senior Deputy Mohanad Gabr

Cell - (803) 513-9622

Area of responsibility - Region 4 Outbound (Piney Grove to Chapin)

Email - mgabr@rcsd.net



Deputy David Farr

Cell - (803) 606-7519

Area of responsibility - Region 4 Inbound (Piney Grove to Columbia)

Email - dfarr@rcsd.net



Region Four

Community Meetings

<u>NEIGHBORHOOD</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Lakeside Apts	Nov 2	3:00	Community Room
Ballentine Civic Assoc.	Nov 6	6:30	Ballentine Park
Belmont Estates	Nov 7	7:00	1112 Bakersfield Rd
Courtyard Condos	Nov 7	7:00	3609 Juneau Rd Apt A8
Riverview Terrace	Nov 13	6:30	E E Taylor Elementary
Dena Banks	Nov 14	3:00	744 Zimalcrest Dr
Harmon Hill	Nov 15	3:00	1 Meadowland Ct
Woodsedge Apts	Nov 16	10:00	Community Room
Pine Valley Exec	Nov 20	6:30	1701 Westchester Dr
Lexington Green Condos	Nov 21	7:00	1208 Bush River Rd
Ascot	Nov 27	7:00	1104 Steeple Ridge
Bonnie Forest	Oct 27	7:00	937 Piney Woods Rd

Crimestoppers

1-888-CRIME-SC www.midlandscrimestoppers.com

Text: **TIPSC** & your message to **CRIMES (274637)**



Online Reporting
Department Profile

We're Online

@ www.rcsd.net