



Press Release

Lake County Sheriff's Office
www.sheriffdunlap.org

Daniel A. Dunlap
Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE **August 16, 2010**

Thinking about throwing out your old cell phone? Why not donate your old cell phone to the Lake County Sheriff's Office because it could be a lifesaver for a senior citizen or person truly in need of assistance.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office is asking the public for help in collecting cell phones, and the accessories that go with those phone (ie chargers, cell phone cases, etc) to provide to people who may not have regular phone service available. We have partnered with the 911 Cell Phone Bank (<http://www.911cellphonebank.org/how-it-works.asp>) in a nationwide program to make emergency cell phones available to people in need.

The steps are easy. Simply delete your information from your cell phone. If you would rather the Sheriff's Office will strip your phone of any personal information that remains on the phone. Your phone will be sent away and converted to an emergency phone only able to dial 9-1-1. Once converted the cell phone will be returned the Sheriff's Office where it can be donated to senior citizens, crime victims and persons in need who currently have no availability to easily contact 9-1-1 in an emergency. It is important to note that these phones will have no other personal service attached, they are strictly for use in an emergency situation.

"We live in an age of technology and for many access not only to regular home phone service, but cell phone service, is taken for granted" says Sheriff Dan Dunlap. "But unfortunately many of our seniors to day, as well as many victims of crime, cannot afford regular phone service, let alone the luxury of a cell phone. By donating your used cell phone you are providing people in need with a link to police and fire services in an emergency, which can be the difference between life and death."

Any person who has a cell phone they would like to donate can drop it off at the Lake County Sheriff's Office, 104 East Erie Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077. Come in to the front lobby and the clerk will accept your donation and

Lake County Sheriff's Office 104 East Erie Street Painesville, Ohio 44077
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start the process. Once the phone has been retooled the Sheriff's Office will provide the emergency phone to anyone in need.