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Press Release

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Oak Forest Police Department Joins Neighbors Ring App

Today, users of the Neighbors App by Ring who live in the City of Oak Forest were notified that the Oak Forest Police Department had joined the Neighbors App giving the members of the Investigations Division and the Crime Prevention Officer the ability to participate in the Neighbors portal. Neighbors is a neighborhood watch app that provides real-time, local crime and safety information. Download the free Neighbors app on iOS or Android, join your neighborhood, and use the app to: monitor neighborhood activity, share crime and safety-related videos, photos and text-based posts, receive real-time safety alerts from your neighbors, local law enforcement and the Ring team. Download Neighbors from the App Store or Google Play Store today to join your digital neighborhood watch.

This interactive technology allows users of the Neighbors App to voluntarily assist the Oak Forest Police Department with criminal apprehension and prosecution. It is very important to assure our residents that their privacy is of the utmost importance and at no time does this program allow any access to camera footage without the owner's permission. This partnership does allow the police department to interact on social media with residents who use the Neighbors App, provide feedback on user posts, send out video requests to specific areas and times where criminal activity has occurred and to provide important safety alerts and community posts.

Residents who do not own Ring products can still utilize the app and receive information from the OFPD and your neighbors. The police department will not have access to your cameras and we will only see what you choose to share on the app.

HOW IT WORKS:

- Download the Neighbors app on iOS and Android.

- Opt-in to join your neighborhood.

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- Customize the geographic area you want to receive notifications for (users must verify where they are located and cannot participate in other neighborhoods).

- Receive real-time alerts from your neighbors, local law enforcement and the Ring team that inform of crime and safety alerts as they happen.

- View local crime and safety posts via a live feed or interactive map.

- Share text updates, photos and videos taken on any device, including Ring's home security devices.

- Work with your community to make neighborhoods safe

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Detective Sergeant Ryan Burnett at 708-687-1376 or RBurnett@oak-forest.org.