

## **News Release**

April 7, 2020 Release Number: 4404

## Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center Urges Community to Sign Up for Smart911 to Enable Coronavirus Awareness for First Responders

As Charleston County continues to prepare for and respond to the spread of COVID-19, Charleston County Consolidated Dispatch is strongly encouraging the community to sign up for the Smart911 national safety profile registry. It is a free service that allows individuals and families to provide critical medical information to 9-1-1 and first responders. Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center is launching the "Take Control, Let Us Know" campaign to empower the community to take action, and provide valuable and accurate health data that increases the awareness of 9-1-1, first responders, and Emergency Management to an individual's risk level for COVID-19.

"This is a great tool for citizens to improve the safety of our first responders as COVID-19 continues to spread," said Charleston County Consolidated Dispatch Director Jim Lake. "By signing up for Smart911, individuals can help first responders get the key information they need about every person who may need assistance, not only during this outbreak, but during any emergency."

Individuals can create a Smart911 Safety Profile for their household at <a href="www.smart911.com">www.smart911.com</a> or on the <a href="Smart911 App">Smart911 App</a> that provides critical medical information for those who may be at higher risk of developing a serious illness from the COVID-19 virus. As identified by the <a href="CDC">CDC</a>, the most vulnerable population includes older adults, and those with a history of chronic medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes, lung disease, respiratory conditions, and compromised immune systems. When an individual calls 9-1-1, their Smart911 Safety Profile is automatically displayed, allowing our public safety agencies to send emergency response teams to the right location with enhanced medical data.

Individuals can additionally self-identify if they are under quarantine, and whether it is self-imposed or directed by a health professional as well as if they are well, ill with COVID-19, or recovered from the virus. With enhanced coronavirus awareness, individuals and first responders have vital information to take proper precautions.

To sign up, visit www.smart911.com or download the Smart911 app in the Apple Store or Google Play.

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org



- Prepared by the Public Information Office -