



# ***News Release***

## **Columbia/Boone County Public Safety Joint Communications**

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Columbia, MO 65202

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## **SMART911 CONTINUES TO GROW IN BOONE COUNTY**

### ***Service Gives 9-1-1 Telecommunicators Critical Information During an Emergency***

Public Safety Joint Communications Center (PSJC) reminds residents of a free service designed to improve emergency response. Residents are encouraged to register their phone numbers with the “Smart911” service”.

“As we’ve advocated in the past, Smart911 can greatly shorten response time in a critical situation,” said PSJC Operations Manager Brian Maydwell. “Smart911 can quickly make information about you and your family readily available to emergency responders at a time when seconds count.”

Maydwell explained that residents can go to the website “[smart911.com](http://smart911.com)” to create a safety profile and provide information that they want to make available to 9-1-1

telecommunicators during an emergency. Information can include medical conditions, medications, the home addresses of mobile phone callers, and disabilities or other rescue-related information. Whenever a Smart911-registered phone calls the 9-1-1 Operations Center, that submitted information is automatically made available to the telecommunicator. Another feature of the service allows the created safety profile to travel. That means if a resident calls 911 from a Smart911 registered phone in areas such as Arkansas, Atlanta, Nashville, Washington D.C. or other places that use Smart911, the same information is available to 911 telecommunicators in all those areas.

“Not only do we encourage residents to sign up for Smart911, but the service is also ideal for the thousands of college students in the community,” Maydwell added. “Students can register their cell phones to the Smart911 service and make the necessary information about them available. That way, first responders will have quick and easy access to details such as allergies or preexisting medical conditions.”

PSJC stresses that submitted information is kept completely private and secure and only viewable by emergency personnel when the registered user calls 9-1-1. Residents have the option to choose what information to share, and what not to share.

Since the PSJC partnership with the Massachusetts-based Rave Mobile Safety was announced in 2011, over 2,800 profiles from Columbia and Boone County have been registered with Smart911. To find out more about Smart911, or to register for free, log on to the website [www.Smart911.com](http://www.Smart911.com).