

COUNTY OF OAKLAND
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

MICHAEL J. BOUCHARD



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Undersheriff Mike McCabe
(248) 858-0146

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE REMINDS PUBLIC TO CALL DISPATCH
TO REPORT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY – NOT THROUGH
SOCIAL MEDIA**

August 1, 2017 (Oakland County, Mich.) – The Sheriff's Office would like to remind the public to call 911 or the non-emergency number to report reckless behavior or suspicious activity and avoid reporting it through social media. Recently, the Sheriff's Office has received an increase in citizens reporting crimes and sending in information regarding reckless drivers through social media platforms.

Social media often has delays in two-way communication. Therefore, the most effective methodology is a phone call. Social media is a helpful tool, but it is not a replacement for calling our Dispatch Center or your local police department. It is also the best way to have a Deputy or Officer sent out to investigate the reported issue in a timely fashion. Sending important information through messaging services, like Facebook, delays getting someone on scene to look into the complaint. The Sheriff's Office does respond to social media messages, but it is not always monitored real-time.

“Facebook and other types of social media are a part of many of our everyday lives, but please remember, it is not a replacement for dialing 911 to report a crime, suspicious circumstances, or reckless driving,” said Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard.

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