



Georgetown County Sheriff's Office

A. Lane Cribb, Sheriff

430 North Fraser Street

Georgetown, South Carolina 29440

News Release

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SHERIFF A. LANE CRIBB REMINDS CITIZENS TO HELP FIGHT CRIME THROUGH TEXT MESSAGING TIP SERVICE

(Georgetown, SC)--- Mobile phone users in Georgetown County have the ability to provide anonymous crime fighting tips through the power of anonymous text messaging and Web Tips. In 2010, the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office and Anderson Software, the industry leader in law enforcement tip management software and web applications, joined together to provide this service which allows citizens to send anonymous tips by sending a text message from a mobile phone or online.

"The popularity of text messaging has created a significant opportunity for the public to help law enforcement agencies fight crime," said Sheriff A. Lane Cribb. "The ability for any citizen who owns a mobile phone to assist in crime solving is of great importance to communities globally, and we are excited to play such a pivotal role in the transmission of these crime fighting tips. There is no doubt that this program will dramatically increase our crime solving capabilities!"

Using Tip Soft Text Tips, information may be anonymously received and securely replied to with complete confidence. The service was built specifically to allow text messaging informants to remain anonymous by encrypting the text messages and routing them through several secure servers, protecting the personal details of the informant.

To provide anonymous information to the Sheriff's Office, Text "GCSOTIP" plus your message to 274637 (CRIMES). Tip Soft SMS allows police to respond by text message to the originating cell phone without ever knowing the identity of the individual who left the tip. The user's information is always given an alias and a unique ID before being sent. This secure application allows the tipster and the investigator to have two-way dialog while always keeping the user's identity completely anonymous.

Sheriff Cribb encourages everyone to report information about any non-urgent illegal activity, such as unsolved cases, vandalism, theft, the sale and distribution of drugs or information about crimes that are being planned in the community or schools. This service is for crime tips ONLY, not for the reports of crimes in progress. For crimes in progress call 911.

Additional information on Tip Soft Text Tips can be found on the Web at <http://www.smscrimetips.com>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office (843) 546-5102.

SENDING AN SMS TEXT TIP

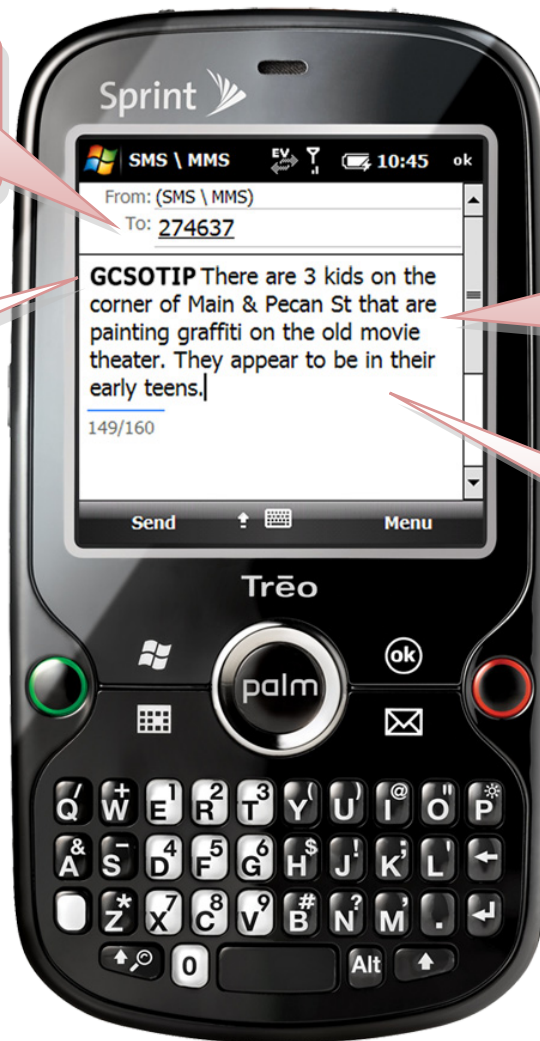
GEORGETOWN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

This is the numeric equivalent of **CRIMES** on a traditional keypad. A PDA or smartphone may be mapped differently.

Your keyword is "**GCSOTIP**". It should be the first part of all NEW tips.

This is the actual tip. All messages should begin with the keyword, followed by a space then the tip.

Note: Subsequent messages can be sent **without** the keyword.



Spelling out **CRIMES** on this keypad would result in entering "**82@,1-**", so you would need to enter **274637** instead.



Spelling out **CRIMES** on this keypad would result in entering "**274637**".

