



# Kendall County

*Office of the Sheriff*

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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Kendall County Sheriff's Office Partners with Ring App to Improve Neighborhood Safety**

The Kendall County Sheriff's Office has joined the free Neighbors app by Ring to provide Kendall County residents with real-time, local crime and safety information. This partnership will provide the community with local crime and safety information while also aiding in criminal investigations. The Neighbors network already has millions of users nationwide and has been instrumental in catching package thieves, stopping burglaries and keeping neighborhoods safe.

Neighbors is a free app that anyone can use, even if they do not own a Ring device. Once the app is downloaded, residents can join their neighborhood and use the app to monitor neighborhood activity, share crime and safety-related videos, photos and text-based posts, and receive safety alerts from their neighbors, local law enforcement and the Ring team.

Like other social media sharing platforms, law enforcement participation on the Neighbors app is not meant to replace 911. If residents see a crime occur they are encourage to immediately report the incident through official department channels. Posts made by users other than law enforcement do not display the poster's identity. Joining the Neighbors app does not grant law enforcement access to cameras or user data. Law enforcement can only view content residents have publicly posted to the Neighbors app or that they have decided to share with law enforcement in response to a specific request. Residents do not need to own a Ring device or any other home security system in order to download and use the Neighbors app. Anyone with a compatible smartphone or tablet can do so.

## **How It Works**

- The Neighbors app is available for free on iOS, Android and FireOS devices. Residents can text 'JOIN TODAY' to 555888 from your smartphone to receive a link to download the Neighbors app.
- Opt-in to join your neighborhood.
- 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 safer.