



NEWS RELEASE

City of Spring Hill, Tennessee – Office of Communications
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Thursday, July 27, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



JAMIE PAGE / CITY OF SPRING HILL

Parking spaces in the lower front parking lot of Spring Hill City Hall, 199 Town Center Parkway, have been designated by the Spring Hill Police Department as Safe Exchange Zones.

SHPD establishes ‘Safety Exchange Zone,’ a safe meeting place for online purchase transactions

SPRING HILL, Tenn. – While the vast majority of online sales involving face-to-face transactions occur without incident, the City of Spring Hill has established a "Safe Exchange Zone" at the request of residents to help ensure our citizens' safety.

Online sales and trading involving in-person interactions have become increasingly popular nationwide. Unfortunately, meeting up with a stranger in a non-public place has occasionally resulted in armed

robberies, violent incidents and scams in many cities. In an effort to avoid these types of incidents, the Spring Hill Police Department has designated three parking spaces in the lower front parking lot of Spring Hill City Hall as a Safe Exchange Zone.

This zone allows residents to safely meet and complete online transactions in a well-lit area in close proximity to the Spring Hill E-911 Dispatch Center in case of an emergency. Dispatcher monitoring and video recording will help prevent crimes and any other unintended consequences of these types of transactions.

“The SHPD Safe Exchange Zone will be a positive first step in providing a safe meeting location for members in many online purchasing groups, such as Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace or VarageSale,” said Spring Hill E-911 Director Brandi Smith. “This location will be a highly used resource in keeping Spring Hill citizens safe.”

Video recording monitors four parking spaces in the designated area. The Safe Exchange Zone is open to the public and designated by bright yellow signs. Here you can trade legal items, including internet sales transactions, or conduct child custody exchanges in a safe, camera-monitored environment. Note that the trade or sale of any illegal items is prohibited and could lead to an arrest.

Please be aware that police will not be screening transactions, but are available if an emergency arises. Video recordings monitor all trades conducted in the Safe Exchange Zone.

If at any time you feel unsafe or need police assistance, dial 911 or call (931) 486-3269 for a non life-threatening emergency.

In addition to using the Safe Exchange Zone, keep in mind these tips when conducting internet exchanges:

- Meet in the Safe Exchange Zone or other neutral, populated and well-lit areas.
- Do not disclose unnecessary personal details and avoid meeting at your home.
- When possible, bring a friend to accompany you during the transaction.
- Beware of vague or "too good to be true" offers.
- Call 911 or the local non-emergency police number if you feel unsafe or see something suspicious.

Spring Hill City Hall
199 Town Center Pkwy.
Spring Hill, TN 37179

- Safe Exchange Zone:
Lower front parking lot

- Parking lot open 24/7

- Regular Operating
Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30
p.m. Monday – Friday;
closed on holidays

- If at any time you feel
unsafe or need police
assistance during a
transaction, dial 911, or
call 931-486-3269 in a
non-emergency
situation.