For Immediate Release

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**Safety Tips for Children Encountering Strangers**

(Georgetown, SC) --- The Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office would like to offer a few suggestions to parents in teaching children safe and smart precautions when they encounter strangers.

1. Tell your child that unless they have been given specific permission by you, it is never ok to go away with an adult or child under any circumstances.
2. Never approach a stranger in a motor vehicle.
3. If a stranger grabs you, kick, bite, hit, scream, and do whatever it takes to stop him or her from pulling you away or dragging you into his or her car and attract the attention of others who can help.
4. If you choose to leave your child home alone, instruct them to not open the door for anyone.
6. Make sure your children know their name, address and phone number.
7. Tell your child to use the buddy system. Avoid walking anywhere alone.
8. If a stranger approaches you, you do not have to speak to him or her. Just keep walking or run from the stranger. Do not accept candy or other items from a stranger.
9. Keep a recent photo of your child, their fingerprints and other medical information in an I.D. kit. Visit the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office to pick up a kit provided by the National Child Identification Program.

Anonymous tips can also be sent by using Text-A-Tip. Just dial 274637 from any text enabled cell phone, and text the word “GCSOTIP” followed by your message. This service is for crime tips ONLY, not for the reports of crimes in progress. For crimes in progress, call 911.

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