

NEWS RELEASE

November 26, 2012
CITY OF PADUCAH, KY



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New Episode of *Your City at Work* on Government Channel 11 Online Safety

PADUCAH, KY—"The challenge for this next generation is how to manage social media instead of social media managing you," says Paducah Police Captain Donald Hodgson. On this episode of *Your City at Work*, viewers will learn about online safety including online relationships and privacy, sexting, cyberbullying, and general online safety tips. This presentation initially was given to students at Paducah Tilghman High School; however, the information is valid for all age groups.

Officer Gretchen Morgan says, "Social media is a great tool for reconnecting with friends and family, and businesses use it. It's a great tool, but you have to be careful. Be careful what you put out there. We want to make people aware that it can be dangerous."

Officer Kelly Drew says, "A lot of people have the perception that this doesn't happen." However, Officers Drew and Morgan provide examples of people who were victims of predatory online relationships. A list of warning signs and phrases is provided to increase awareness of potential problems. To protect yourself, make sure all of your online privacy settings are in place.

One of the latest trends online is sexting, the sending of explicit photos or phrases. Officer Drew says, "As soon as you post a picture or video, even if you delete it, it's not deleted on the other end. Or if it's on the internet, it can be copied and pasted in a second." Officer Morgan says, "It's your body. You have to make the right choices not to send the photo."

This episode of *Your City at Work* also provides great tips for people of all ages who are using the internet and social media. In the final segment, the Paducah Police Department wants everyone to remember the four "R's" regarding online safety: recognize, refuse, respond, and report.

"We'd like to get the word out that we've got this program, and we'd like to bring it to other schools as well as adult groups," says Captain Hodgson. If an organization is



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interested in having the Paducah Police Department make this presentation, contact Captain Hodgson at 444-8548.

Your City at Work can be seen on Government 11, the governmental access channel of the City of Paducah. The episode can be viewed on Government 11 starting Wednesday, November 28 at 9 a.m. It also airs Thursday at 8:30 p.m. and Friday at 5:30 p.m. View daily program information by watching the informational slides airing on the Channel 11 bulletin board. The episode also is online at www.paducahky.gov and the various social media outlets for the City of Paducah including Youtube and Facebook. Check the website for program information, videos, news releases, and broadcast schedules.

Your City at Work is hosted and produced by Pam Spencer, Public Information Officer for the City of Paducah through the television production facilities at West Kentucky Community and Technical College. For more information about *Your City at Work* or other Government 11 programming, call Tom Butler, WKCTC Television Production Coordinator, at 534-3208 or Pam Spencer at 444-8669.

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