



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LCSO Fair Exhibit Educates Parents on Dangers “Hidden in Plain Sight”

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is gearing up for the 79th Annual North Florida Fair, helping parents keep their children safe. Deputies will be onsite for hands-on learning for parents and guardians, in addition to offering child ID cards, free of charge.

The theme of the LCSO exhibit is “Hidden in Plain Sight” and will feature a replica of a teenager's bedroom. Parents will get a checklist, then explore the room, and determine how items could be used to hide objects like drug paraphernalia or weapons. “Many of the items in our exhibit are things that can be easily purchased online or in local stores,” said Shonda Knight, Executive Director of Community and Media Relations. “At first glance a writing pen may not signal a red flag, but our experts can show you how it can be manipulated to hide items such as pills or illegal drugs.”

The room is organized by LCSO's Crime Prevention and Youth Services units to connect parents with ways to keep their children safe and to encourage them to start the conversation early about drugs, alcohol, and firearms. The exhibit also features social media apps and their functions that parents may not be aware of. Participants will be entered into a drawing to win a Ring Video Doorbell.

LCSO will also issue Child ID cards during this year's fair. This is a valuable tool for parents and for law enforcement agencies to help identify and locate children if they are lost or abducted. The ID cards include details such as the child's date of birth, pertinent medical information, and distinguishing features such as hair color, eye color, birthmarks, etc. as well as fingerprints and a photo.

The “Hidden in Plain Sight” and Child ID exhibit will be located in building #2. More information on dates and times will be posted on the LSCO Facebook page. The North Florida Fair will be held November 4-14.



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