

## **OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**

Sheriff Curtis L. Landers 225 W. Olive Street Newport, Oregon 97365 (541) 265-4277 Fax (541) 265-4926

## TIP OF THE WEEK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Sheriff Curtis Landers 541-265-0652 <u>lcsheriff@co.lincoln.or.us</u>

## **SMART PHONE SECURITY**

Technology is always changing and adapting, which means users need to stay updated on the latest information so they can make decisions about their accounts and device security. iPhone users may have noticed the new NameDrop feature that came along with the Apple iOS 17 update. This feature was designed to help users easily share their contact information with new people directly from their iPhone or Apple Watch. The concern that many have brought up is the possibility of sharing their contact information on accident or with people that they do not know. According to <u>Apple's</u> <u>support website</u>, users will be prompted before information is shared and they do have the option to decline the prompt, move their phone away from another's, or lock their phone to prevent the transfer. If you would like to turn off the NameDrop feature go to: Settings > General > AirDrop > Bringing Devices Together, then switch "Bringing Devices Together" to off.

Below are some security tips to consider for your own or your family member's smart phones:

- Use strong passcodes.
- Consider disabling In-App purchases to prevent accidental purchases.
- Turn off Bluetooth when not in use and only connect to trusted devices.
- Only connect to secure and trusted Wi-Fi networks.

- Use the "Parental Controls" feature under Settings to set screen time limits, set app use restrictions, enable the Communication Safety feature to automatically detect nude photos, and more.
- Monitor app permissions including what apps can update automatically, when they can use your location, and what personal data they collect.
- Keep your devices updated. Software updates usually come with increased security features and more resilient programming.
- Use two-factor authentication whenever possible.
- Learn more about your smart phone's features and security options by visiting your carrier's website or store.

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