

Forsyth Co. program sends alerts on offender's whereabouts

CUMMING - Forsyth County residents now have fast access to custody information on offenders throughout Forsyth County and the rest of the state.

Sheriff Ted Paxton said the Sheriff's Office has launched VINE, an automated victim notification service citizens can access 24 hours every day, either by telephone or via the internet.

"Protecting the citizens of Forsyth County is always our highest priority," said Sheriff Paxton. "Now, VINE provides an added level of protection because it gives everyone access to timely and accurate information on offenders in our county and throughout the State of Georgia. We're delighted that we could make this important service available to the public."



People calling (800) 398-2892 are asked to provide an offender's name or booking number. After the system has provided the relevant custody information, it asks the caller if they would like to register to be automatically notified when the offender is released or transferred. Those choosing to register will be asked to provide a telephone and a four-digit personal identification (PIN), which they will later use to confirm the notification call.

Live operator assistance is available round the clock for callers who have questions or require additional help. Citizens can also go online at www.vineline.com to locate and register.

"VINE is definitely designed with the victim in mind. It's very user-friendly," Sheriff Paxton said. "What makes it special is the automatic notification feature - as long as you've got a telephone or computer, you can receive an automated alert at anytime of the day or night. That kind of protection is critically important to anyone who is concerned about the whereabouts of an offender."