



**Shelby Police Department
311 South Lafayette Street
Shelby, North Carolina 28151**



Press Release

To: Local Media Outlets
From: Jeff Ledford, Chief of Police
Date: April 1, 2016
Re: April is 9-1-1 Education Month

Shelby Police Department Recognizes April as National 9-1-1 Education Month

Joins with national public safety leaders to promote 9-1-1 awareness and proper usage

Today, the Shelby Police Department began a month-long campaign to help Americans of all ages recognize the importance of 9-1-1 and the role they play in ensuring effective and efficient emergency response in times of crisis. Groups including the United States Congress and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), a leading public safety association, have also recognized April as National 9-1-1 Education Month, and are encouraging the media, the 9-1-1 community, the wireless industry, and public information providers to engage in 9-1-1 awareness and education activities this month.

“For forty years, 9-1-1 has served as the vital link between the American public and emergency services,” said NENA CEO, Brian Fontes. “Public education and awareness initiatives throughout the years have contributed in large measure to the incredible and ongoing success of the emergency communications system as a whole. It is our hope that all groups interested in promoting and enhancing the safety and welfare of the public will help deliver critical 9-1-1 messages this month.”

As consumers utilize new communications technologies and devices, 9-1-1 education takes on an increased importance for everyone, but especially for children, teens, and parents. Throughout the month of April, the Shelby Police Department 9-1-1 Communications Center will be promoting “Making 9-1-1 Work for YOU” topics on our social media pages. NENA has also made a number of public safety educational resources for the media, 9-1-1 professionals, public educators, and citizens available via its National 9-1-1 Education Month webpage, www.nena.org/education/911-education-month.