OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

CONSOLIDATED CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

501 EAST BAY STREET • JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202-2975

John H. Rutherford
Sheriff

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In recent weeks there have been two reports of possible attempts to contact or lure children in the East Arlington area. The JSO is currently investigating both, in order to identify the person(s) involved and determine the exact nature of the incidents. At this time it is not known if there is any connection between the two.

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office would like to remind all parents, in all neighborhoods, of the importance of educating children about Stranger Danger, and some FREE resources available to citizens.

- Visit our website at jaxsheriff.org – there are FREE, downloadable brochures and pamphlets dealing with topics such as: 10 WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM STRANGERS and RAISING STREETWISE KIDS (English and Spanish), and our elementary age-appropriate video STRANGER DANGER. (Click on Community Affairs – and Community Education Brochures and Videos)

- The JSO website also contains a FREE service called OFFENDER WATCH, where citizens can register for FREE email notifications when a registered predator or offender moves into your neighborhood. Click on the Offender Watch tab to learn more and register for notifications.

- SAFETY IN NUMBERS – young children should stay in groups, not alone. If approached by a stranger they should make noise and scream, or run away.

- TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN about incidents that you hear about in a non threatening, age appropriate manner. Some children become anxious and frightened by stories they hear or images they see in the media.

- All reports of information that may involve an attempt to lure a child are taken seriously by the JSO and are investigated. Call 9-1-1 for Emergencies and 630-0500 (non emergency) to report information.

- The JSO works closely with Neighborhood Watch programs and Neighborhood Associations to provide accurate information to community members. Please call your Patrol Zone Office for current information.