



Police, Fire Ask Users to ‘ICE’ Cell Phones

The Las Cruces police and fire departments are recommending that cell phone users program into their address book “ICE” contacts – the persons who can be called by first responders or medical personnel in case of an emergency.

ICE, the acronym for “In Case of Emergency,” is being promoted by emergency personnel worldwide as a means to easily contact next of kin, a responsible party or the person who should be called during an emergency. It is recommended that cell phone users have at least three ICE contacts, one of whom should be a family member.

For example, ICE contacts can be stored as “ICE-Dad” or “ICE-Mom.” A number can be added to show who should be notified first, second and third: “ICE1-Mom,” “ICE2-Dad” or “ICE3-Susan.”

ICE contacts should be knowledgeable of the cell phone user’s medical conditions, allergies, blood type, medications and other personal information that emergency personnel may need.

Some newer model cell phones already have the ICE feature programmed into its contact or address book. It is recommended that cell phone users check with their providers about the availability of this feature.

Taking the time to add ICE contacts into a cell phone can benefit first responders, and medical personnel, and ultimately the cell phone user in the event of an emergency.

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