

SMART911 may just save you or your loved one's life



Your Turn

Amy Murray
Guest columnist

As a mom, I want to do everything I can to protect my family. It's in a parent's DNA. It's in everything we do.

That's why, last week I sat down at my computer, logged onto SMART911.com, and provided critical emergency information to our fire and police departments. Now, if I or anyone in my family calls 911, whether it's from home or their cell phones, first responders will have an extra tool in providing emergency assistance.

The process only took minutes to complete, and was simple and free! Best of all was the satisfaction I received from putting a safety umbrella

over my family. As a mom, an aunt, a sister, a daughter, I appeal to everyone to sign your family up and create individual profiles right now. I believe it can and will save lives.

Recently launched in Cincinnati, SMART911 has partnered with Hamilton County throughout the entire county. The program saves precious time by providing critical information to the dispatcher immediately. When you call 911 from your cell phone, a dispatcher will see the profile you have provided, including home and/or work addresses, emergency contacts, vehicle description, and pet information.

For example, if you call 911 from your cell phone during a fire, your profile will display your address, your family members, and your pet's information to the dispatcher, who can then pro-

vide those details to the first responders. In that case, if the call is disconnected before you could provide your information, the dispatcher would still see your profile and, if needed, could notify your emergency contacts.

When you create a private and secure Safety Profile at SMART911.com, you can share as little or as much information as you want. I answered most of the questions because I want an emergency responder to have as much information as possible when responding to help my family. What can you do? Sign up now. Share this with everyone in your circles.

We are very fortunate to have the full support of Ron and Jill Plush and their family, who have inspired this launch and will be joining our volunteer team to help get information

about SMART911 in front of as many people as possible. They know all too well how critical it is to get information to emergency responders in a time of crisis. If you would like someone to speak to your group or if you need more information about SMART911, you can call my council office at (513) 352-3640 or email Amy.Murray@Cincinnati-oh.gov for assistance.

SMART911 is a game-changer for emergency communications and is now available to us in Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

Before you forget, before you go anywhere, go to your computer, log on to SMART911.com and put that safety umbrella over your family.

*Cincinnati City Councilwoman
Amy Murray is vice chair of the Law and Public Safety Committee.*