



PAOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

To Protect and Serve

Chief Paul Jokerst
Deputy Chief Don Poore

NEWS RELEASE



Want to be sure that your Craigslist, eBay, etc. sale or purchase is a safe and secure transaction? Then head to the Paola Police Department.

The Paola Police department, like many agencies across the nation, will now be an "Internet Purchase Exchange Location" where individuals can complete sales arrangements they've made online. Chief Paul Jokerst encourages individuals to not only utilize the lit parking lot which is monitored by cameras 24 hours a day, but to use the police department lobby as well. Just suggesting meeting at the police station can weed out those who may have a criminal intention with the transaction.

It is strongly recommended that exchanges be made during the day hours and inside the police department lobby. It is important to remember that the people you meet online are complete strangers and can pose dangers. It is important to

remember that not every buyer or seller is someone who is being completely true with their intentions. Unfortunately, there is a certain criminal element out there that will capitalize upon the inexperience of others and meet in a place that they are familiar with.

It is the goal of the Paola Police Department to reduce victimization by this type of criminal, take additional safety precautions and provide citizens with a safe and monitored place to conduct such business.

In addition to providing a safe area to conclude online purchase, the area can also be used as a safe location for families with visitation rights to make the custodial exchanges.