



## WESTERVILLE COMMUNICATIONS

At 18:41 on Wednesday 08/08 a frantic 9-1-1 call came in to Westerville Communications. The caller reported seeing her neighbor being kidnapped and placed into the trunk of a vehicle. Within 18 seconds, the information was aired to all cars and more information was being gathered. When officers arrive on scene, they found the back door to the residence kicked in and multiple witnesses from the neighborhood all describing a vehicle and course of events, all pointing to a forcible abduction.

The Westerville Communications team immediately began disseminating the suspect vehicle and victim information to surrounding agencies. Witnesses and family were able to provide a suspect name. With this information, dispatchers were able to check multiple data sources, including Lexus/Nexus, LEADS, OHLEG and others to get a full work up on the subject. They were able to locate a cell phone number for the suspect, which they narrowed down to a specific carrier and began working with the wireless company to ping the suspect's phone. Every lead was followed up, with the dispatchers making numerous calls to other agencies asking them to check locations the suspect was known to frequent. The made phone contact with more than 20 different agencies requesting locations be checked.

Dispatchers were able to make contact with the suspect's father with the help of the Marion Police. In talking with the father, he eventually advised an area where his son may go to in Marion County. Units were dispatched and the suspect vehicle was spotted. After a pursuit that spanned two counties, the suspect was taken into custody and the victim safely returned.

It was the ingenuity, determination and creativity of the team at Westerville Communications that brought this incident to a quick,

successful conclusion. The team at Westerville would also like to thank Gretchen McElroy from Marion PD who was instrumental in locating the suspect.

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