

# PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

October 19, 2021

## **The Southern Pines Police Department Announces: Online Incident Reporting Through Citizen Connect**

On October 19, 2021, the Southern Pines Police Department will launch its Online Incident Reporting process on Citizen Connect where the public can self-report non-emergency crimes. Incidents such as Damage to Property, Lost Property, Credit Card/ATM Fraud, Harassing Phone Calls, Identity Theft and Stolen Property can now be reported from a smart phone, tablet or computer with internet access. The process is simple to use and will provide the community with an immediate temporary case number. After a report is filed, citizens will receive follow-up communications from the police department within 72 hours, providing citizens a status about their case.

An easy to use link to Citizen Connect can be found on the Town of Southern Pines website at [www.southernpines.net](http://www.southernpines.net) under “News Flash”. An additional link is also available when navigating to the Southern Pines Police Department webpage under the “Quick Links” tab. Citizen Connect will provide examples for each reportable crime and will prompt the Reporting Person to complete all required information. The goal of Online Incident Reporting in Citizen Connect is to allow citizens to report various non-emergency incidents when there is no immediate threat to the public. Additionally, Online Incident Reporting will allow more police officers to be available for priority calls and data driven self-initiated field activities.

Online Incident Reporting in Citizen Connect is an optional, additional service offered to the community designed to bring the professional services of the Southern Pines Police Department to the fingertips of the community.

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