



# CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

530-897-4900

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**TYPE OF INCIDENT: PSA-Pokémon Go App**

**LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Chico Area**

**DATE/TIME OCCURRED:**

**INCIDENT CASE NUMBER:**

**VICTIM:**

**SUSPECT:**

**NARRATIVE:**

**The Chico Police Department would like to warn citizens of the dangers of the new Pokémon Go App that has gained popularity in recent weeks.**

**The game, which launched several weeks ago, is based on a classic cartoon. Players use their smart devices to access GPS mapping Apps to locate these cartoon characters. The game requires players to move to various locations and pay attention to the touchscreen of their device. Although the thought of getting outside and enjoying the community is good, citizens should be aware of the dangers this game presents.**

**Chico Police have responded to multiple close call collisions involving vehicle and distracted pedestrians. In addition, the police have responded to numerous calls of prowlers, trespassers, and possible burglaries in progress. We have also received reports of distracted drivers who are operating motor vehicles while playing this game.**

**The Chico Police Department reminds gamers to stay aware of their surroundings and to be cautious when playing this game. Gamers should avoid playing the game during late night hours. They should also avoid accessing private property and closed businesses as well as moving through unfamiliar areas by yourself.**

**Supervisor:**

**Watch Commander: Lt. Matt Madden**

**Prepared By: Lt. Matt Madden**

**Date/Time: 7-16-16, 1700**