

JOPLIN



POLICE

"Serving With Pride Since 1873"

303 E. 3rd Street Joplin, MO. 64801-2274

417-623-3131

Fax 417-625-4733

Matthew Stewart
Chief of Police

Date: July 15, 2016
Origin: Department PIO
Contact: Captain Bob Higginbotham
Phone: 623-3131 #643

NEWS RELEASE

The Joplin Police Department is reminding players of Pokémon Go to stay safe and alert. We are receiving reports of close calls associated with playing Pokémon Go and we urge gamers to consider safety over their scores before a life is lost.

Officers are observing near-miss incidents by distracted pedestrians and distracted driving as a result of drivers on their phones playing the game. This fun game can have tragic real-world consequences if you're playing it while driving or crossing the street.

Additionally, numerous individuals are on business, church, and government properties, including parks, at all hours of the night, when these places are closed to the public. We urge players to avoid visiting these locales unless during appropriate times. Players should also be aware that dark and isolated areas, such as a public park after hours, could pose significant and unnecessary risks.