PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

In response to concerns about personal safety while making a sale or purchase utilizing an online auction or person to person exchange, the Harrison County Sheriff's Office has created (12) monitored Internet Purchase Exchange Zones around the County. Residents will be able to conduct their transactions at any of the 12 locations knowing that the exchange is being recorded by a surveillance camera.

The locations are as follows:

- 1. Menge Mart, Interstate fuels 8045 Menge Avenue, Pass Christian, MS
- 2. Pure Country 9260 Canal Road, Gulfport, MS
- 3. Clarks 10006 Canal Road, Gulfport, MS
- 4. Neco's Market Place 12342 Cable Bridge Road Pass Christian, MS
- 5. Robinwood One Stop 18447 Highway 49, Saucier, MS
- 6. First Place
- 19485 Highway 67, Saucier, MS
- 7. Pure Country 10166 Lorraine Road, Gulfport, MS
- 8. Kountry Colors and Subway 23379 Highway 53, Saucier, MS
- 9. Highway 53 Quickstop 26333 Highway 53, Saucier, MS
- 10. The Smoke Stop
- 8441 Kiln Delisle Road, Pass Christian, MS
- 11. A Royal Flush Plumbing 12465 Canal Road Gulfport, MS
- 12. The Stop and Geaux 16303 Highway 53, Gulfport, MS

Each location will have a sign marked "Internet Exchange Location", with the Harrison County Sheriff's Office Logo. These signs and parking places are within view of the surveillance cameras. Users are encouraged to conduct their transaction near the sign for maximum coverage.

P.O. Box 1480♦GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39502♦228-896-0606

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When anyone arranges a meeting with a person utilizing the Internet, situational awareness is very important to your overall safety. These areas are much safer because of constant surveillance and the general public in the area. We encourage the public to be in control of the situation by utilizing the Internet Purchase Exchange Zone for their safety.

GENERAL SOCIAL MEDIA TRANSACTION SAFETY TIPS:

- Insist to meet at a public place
- Don't go alone
- Trust your instincts
- Do not meet in a secluded area
- Do not invite strangers into your home, and do not go to theirs
- Be cautious when buying/selling high value items
- Perform the transaction during daylight hours
- If it sounds too good to be true, it normally is
- Tell a friend or family member about your intentions
- Take your cell phone with you

Approved For Release:

Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi