



BLAINE COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

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PRESS RELEASE

Blaine County Emergency Communications launches Text to 9-1-1 with the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center and the City of Twin Falls Communications Center

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In a cooperative effort, Blaine County Emergency Communications Center is pleased to announce the successful implementation of text to 9-1-1 with the Southern Idaho Regional Center and the City of Twin Falls Communications Center. After thorough testing, the ability to send a text message to 9-1-1 in Blaine, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, and Twin Falls Counties is now available.

Voice Calls to 9-1-1 Are Still the Best and Fastest Way to Contact 9-1-1

When to text to 9-1-1

- If you are hearing or speech impaired.
- When a voice call could increase a threat.
- If you are injured and cannot speak.
- If you are in a remote location and can only send a text message.

How to text to 9-1-1 in an emergency:

- Enter the numbers 911 in the "To" field.
- The first text message to 9-1-1 should be brief and contain the location of the emergency and type of help needed.
- Push the send button.
- Be prepared to answer questions and follow instructions for the 9-1-1 call taker.
- Keep the text message brief and concise; avoid slang and abbreviations.

9-1-1: Call if You Can, Text if You Must