

University of South Carolina

Division of Law Enforcement and Safety

Online Dating Apps

Meet your match
safely.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA



Simple rules to help you stay safe

Dating sites and apps are more popular than ever, and connecting with new people can be as simple as swiping right on your smart phone. However, when meeting someone for the first time, you should take precautions.

Always keep your personal safety in mind, and follow these simple guidelines to reduce your risk of harm when meeting a match in person:

Meet at daytime in public first.

Meet in a public place with good lighting. If the person you're talking to or chatting with insists you meet at his or her apartment (residence) or yours, a parking lot or somewhere private, this is a red flag. A busy daytime coffee shop or restaurant may not be private, but others will be around if an unsafe situation arises.

Tell a friend (or friends).

Tell at least one friend, more if possible, where you are going and who you are meeting. Getting your date's first and last name prior to meeting is a good idea anyway.

Be responsible for your own transportation.

It is not a good idea to allow your date to pick you up the first time you are meeting; if things don't go well, you might not want them knowing where you live! Also, if you need to make a quick exit, you will want to have your own vehicle or money for a cab available.

Stay sober.

Alcohol and drugs can impair your judgment and incapacitate you, making you vulnerable to a potential robbery or assault. Avoiding alcohol and drugs will help you maintain a level head and presence of mind.

Download the RAVE Guardian Safety App.

In case of emergency, this FREE app turns your phone into a mobile safety device, on or off campus, connecting you with law enforcement and emergency personnel. RAVE Guardian is available for iPhone and Android devices. Find it at iTunes or Google Play.

Get Help!

If you are being stalked or harassed and you are thinking about filing for a Restraining Order, don't hesitate to reach out for help.

Call the 24-hour number at 803.777.4215, or email victimhelp@mailbox.sc.edu.

The Division of Law Enforcement & Safety provides reasonable, fair, and compassionate assistance to victims and witnesses of crime.

The Division is committed to the development, implementation, and maintenance of programs and activities that provide appropriate assistance to victims/witnesses.

Law Enforcement Victim Advocate Services Include:

- Assistance with Restraining Orders and Orders of Protection (Civil)
- Housing Assistance
- Class Assistance
- Parking Assistance
- No Contact (USC Student Conduct)
- Court Preparation/Appearances (To include the Bond Hearing)
- SOVA Assistance
- Safety Plans
- Referrals

Rave Guardian Safety App 

Download our free mobile app that turns your cell phone into a personalized protection network, connecting with USC Police during an emergency and giving us important information we need instantly.

les.sc.edu/RaveSafetyApp



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Victim Services

Division of Law Enforcement and Safety

1415 Henderson Street
(1600 Hampton Street Annex)
Columbia, SC 29208

24 hour phone number: **803-777-4215**

Emergency: **911**

les.sc.edu