# Old Cell Phones and Accidental 911 Calls

Please don't give old cell phones to children as toys.

Even without an active wireless service plan or SIM card, a cell phone may still be able to call 911. This can result in accidental 911 calls when children play with old phones.

Accidental calls take valuable time and require 911 telecommunicators to determine whether an emergency exists.

Because an uninitialized phone may not provide a callback number or reliable location information, it can also make it more difficult for 911 to determine what happened if the call is disconnected.

**What Should You Do With an Old Phone?**

- Recycle it through a reputable electronics or cell-phone recycling program.
- Keep it for legitimate emergency use only if you understand its limitations.
- If giving an old phone to a child as a toy, remove the battery first.

**If You Accidentally Call 911**

**Don't hang up.**

Stay on the line and tell the telecommunicator that you called by mistake and that there is no emergency. This helps prevent unnecessary emergency response.