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Norfolk County Sheriff's Office "Are you OK?" program and Quincy first responders assist a woman in need of emergency medical care

QUINCY, MA – The Norfolk County Sheriff's Office "Are You OK?" program jumped into action on Monday, along with first responders in Quincy, when a woman who is a client of the free service offered by the sheriff's office said she was in need of emergency help.

It was actually a bit of a role reversal.

The 60-year-old woman, who was in line to receive her weekday check-in call about her health and wellbeing from the sheriff's office during the 10:00 a.m. hour, called the sheriff's office herself at about 10:05 a.m. to alert us that she was not feeling OK.

Kara Likas, a member of the NCSO's Community Engagement team, who was operating the "Are You Ok?" call line on Monday, quickly assessed the situation. Likas learned that a friend of the woman was going to call an ambulance for her, but the friend had not returned.

The woman told Likas she was feeling weak and had already fallen once.

Alarmed by what she heard, Likas stayed on the line with the woman and asked her Community Engagement team colleague Kathy Rose to call Quincy Police. At approximately, 10:09 a.m., the QPD dispatcher said an ambulance crew was on its way, due to an earlier call from the woman's friend.

Likas stayed on the line with the woman and confirmed that her door was unlocked so first responders could gain access to her apartment. Likas then confirmed first responders were inside the woman's apartment at approximately 10:12 a.m. and had begun to help her.

The Norfolk County Sheriff's Office commends Quincy first responders for their quick actions.

“It’s always a great feeling when we can assist our incredible first responders across Norfolk County,” said Sheriff Patrick McDermott. “Several people have been helped by calls from the sheriff’s “Are You Ok?” program over the last six months, including an 83-year-old Dedham woman in January, and an 80-year-old Canton woman who fell in her home last September.”

“Are you OK?” is a free program run by the sheriff’s office that offers calls to county residents who live alone and could use a check-in related to their health or wellbeing.

Norfolk County residents interested in signing up for the program can call 1-866-900-7865.

There is also more information about the “Are You OK?” program on the Norfolk County Sheriff’s website: <https://norfolksheriff.com/divisions/senior/areyouok>

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