

SOSbeacon.org

turn your mobile phone into an SOSbeacon
when your community is networked, help is nearby

SOSbeacon.org is a non-profit organization that provides mobile phone and Internet services dedicated to saving lives, helping those in distress, reducing first response time and minimizing the anxiety of emergencies.

SOSbeacon also provides a simple and free group communications tool for non-emergency use...like organizing your church choir or soccer team. This Group Broadcast Check-in service is the first option on the main screen (see Figure 1).



Figure 1

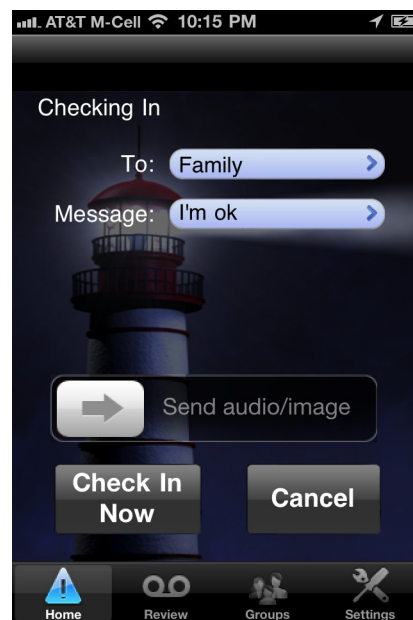


Figure 2

The Check-in service is used to provide information, assurances and updates to a Group of contacts you specify. Tap the **To: field** on the Check-in screen above (Figure 2) to change your broadcast from Family (default) to another set of Contacts you created in Groups (e.g Friends).

The **Send audio/image recording** button IS for recording a 30 second audio message plus automatic or manual image captures. Bandwidth restrictions currently limit video recording. Multiple recordings can be added to the webpage to update a situation.

Group Broadcast Check-in recipients will receive an email and sms text message with a link to the Check-in session (or Alert Incident) webpage. From that webpage, they can see the original check-in message, the user's location, date/time, audio, images, etc.

The user has the option to define many different contact groups. Preset groups are: **Family, Friends, Neighborhood Watch**. The user can add/delete more Groups as needed.

All contacts within the alerted Group can communicate among themselves and coordinate help via the webpage link provided by SOSbeacon. Once a Check-in or Alert is initiated, all data, additional alerts, 911 calls, responder notes, etc, related to that time period (an SOSbeacon "session") are available to all responders to that SOSbeacon session webpage.

The difference between a Group Broadcast Check-in and both the Send Emergency Alert and Call Emergency (911) Phone is that these last two services are considered distress situations and once selected, require no further user input. The Contacts in the default Group set by the user in Emergency Alert Settings are the people who receive the Send Emergency Alert message. The text of the message is either "Sent Emergency Alert" or "Called Emergency Phone" giving the user's name and phone number. An SOSbeacon audio/image recording session is started automatically for Send Emergency Alert.

Call Emergency Phone dials 911 (or the equivalent number if you are in a foreign country), records the call and sends a link to the recording of the 911 call along with the user's location to all contacts in the default Group. Note: The 911 recording service is enabled on Android but not on iPhone apps at this time as it conflicts with Apple call recording policy.

Send Emergency Alert does not call 911, but it is the fastest way to send an alert with audio message, images and location to the default notification Group.

A unique aspect of SOSbeacon is its Good Samaritan program (for emergency calls only).

On the Good Samaritans Settings subscreen (under Settings), tapping the first ON/OFF button you can elect to **send** alerts to nearby Good Samaritans when a 911 call is made on your phone and by tapping the second ON/OFF button you can elect to **receive** Good Samaritan alerts. Good Samaritans are specific nearby SOSbeacon users who have opted into the program for a specific time period and geographical area. Each party (the person sending an alert and the Good Samaritan receiving alerts) sets their own response area, so one can be a Good Samaritan to nearby neighbors, but not outside that area.

The Review option on the app menu bar displays the last (or current) SOSbeacon session webpage you created. This is the webpage your alerted Contacts will see when they click on the link sent to them in the SOSbeacon email or text message. A sample alert notification by email is shown below:

SOSbeacon Alert from Cliff Orloff

FROM: **SOSbeacon**

TO: **Sandy Orloff**

Tuesday, August 9, 2011 2:18 PM

You received an SOSBEACON alert from 91647778888 by Cliff Orloff. Detail here: <http://sosbeacon.org:8085/r/cj4Mej4Pc>

When the alerted contact clicks on the link shown above, the Alert website Message Center <http://sosbeacon.org:8085/r/cj4Mej4Pc> might look like this following example:



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SOSbeacon INC. is a non-profit corporation dedicated to safety and security

Welcome Home! Family Group: 1234567890

[Phone](#) | [WebAPP](#) | [Logout](#)

[HOME](#)

[ABOUT](#)

[FEATURES](#)

[TESTIMONIALS](#)

[PHONE](#)

[CONTACT](#)

Review Phone History

MESSAGE CENTER

[ENTER RESPONDER CHAT](#)

Sandy here 2011-08-14 06:12:00
I can call Bob in 1/2 hour; I will call the doctor so he knows
from BOB 2011-08-14 06:12:32
ok, I am enroute to hospital
[Has 2 added messages](#)

Details

From: Cliff
Number:
Email:
Time: 2011-08-11 05:24:31 GMT
Latitude: 0
Longitude: 0
Text: Emergency call made to

Details

From: Cliff
Number:
Email:
Time: 2011-08-11 05:26:00 GMT
Latitude: 0
Longitude: 0
Text: Phone number sent an alert from

DOWNLOAD CENTER



Created Date: 2011-08-11 05:20:47 GMT



In this emergency situation involving a car accident, you can see the location where the alert was sent on the map, listen to the audio message, view images of the car accident and other details captured at that moment. In this case we hear the audio recording "...the car is wrecked and Mom is shaken but appears OK. They are taking us to the hospital to do further checks". On the top left of the page, one of the alerted contacts clicked the "**ENTER RESPONDER CHAT**" and left a message that he was on the way to the hospital and would check in with the other Family Group members afterwards. Other alerted family members who clicked the alert message link afterwards would see this webpage, the added message and likely add their own notes. They would know that others were aware of the situation and taking needed action. As the incident unfolded additional information could be provided on this page.

Nearby Good Samaritans who might be available to help would be alerted **ONLY** in the case of an emergency (911) call and **ONLY** if the user opted-in to that service.

The WebAPP is accessible from the very top right of this page. This is a web version of the features found on the SOSbeacon mobile phone app.

SOSbeacon is a free service to all users.