

Contact: Clark Liles  
News Communicator  
107 Columbia Ave.  
Chapin, SC 29036  
345-7136  
FAX: 345-7118

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**District Five SRO Protects; Teaches Children**

CHAPIN—Deputy Jaime Gunter, School Resource Officer for Lexington/Richland Five’s Alternative Academy for Success, is not only on hand to protect students and school, but has stepped into the classroom to educate as well.

Deputy Gunter is an educator in the South Carolina National Safety Council’s Alive at 25 defensive driving course. The course, available to young people between the ages of 14 and 24, was developed to “prevent the number one killer of teens, automobile crashes,” according to the Alive at 25 website. Deputy Gunter, the only SRO in the district to step in as an instructor for this program says, “I am very passionate about this program!”

Deputy Gunter is also concerned about the growing influence of gangs in South Carolina. She has stepped in to teach 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders about gangs and how to avoid involvement in gangs, violence, drug abuse, and crime in a program called G.R.E.A.T., Gang Resistance Education and Training.

Deputy Gunter says, “I love spending time with and educating kids, especially when the info I share may save lives!”

For additional information, contact Deputy Jaime Gunter at 345-7136 or [JGunter@lex5.k12.sc.us](mailto:JGunter@lex5.k12.sc.us)