



PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501
Phone (951) 826-5147 • Fax (951) 826-2593

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, August 15, 2008
Contact: Sergeant Pat McCarthy, North NPC Investigations
Phone: (951) 351-6099

Elderly couple scammed by fake solicitors

Riverside, CA – In the afternoon hours of Friday, August 1, 2008, an elderly couple were alone at home in the 3200 block of Lakehill Place, located in the historic downtown area, when two Hispanic male adults came to the front door. The resident was politely greeted by both suspects at the door, who mentioned they were there to inspect the water, which they said might be contaminated. Both suspects further mentioned that contaminated water may have caused two deaths in the neighborhood and they were there to inspect the household water faucets.

The elderly couple allowed both suspects to enter the residence. As one suspect spoke to the couple, the other suspect freely roamed through the house. After approximately 20 minutes, both suspects left the residence. Later in the day, the elderly couple realized that several pieces of jewelry were missing from a bedroom and other items had been rummaged through. The two suspects were described as being Hispanic males, with short hair, in their twenties.

The information relayed by both suspects was completely false and unfounded. If anyone has information about the two suspects, or who have had a similar encounter, are encouraged to call Detective Mike O'Boyle with the Riverside Police Department Investigations Unit at (951) 826-8716.

The Riverside Police Department encourages all citizens to be aware of such scams or similar incidents involving door-to-door solicitors, who do not have any form of identification or verifiable business license. Do not to be persuaded by conning conversation or false pretenses.

Residents who would like to obtain helpful hints about crime prevention or establishing a Neighborhood Watch Program, are encouraged to call Police Service Representative Nancy Castillo at (951) 826-8721.

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