



Willowbrook Police Department

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Chief of Police
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Ruse Burglary Alert

The Willowbrook Police Department would like to make residents aware and be vigilant of several Ruse Burglary incidents in Willowbrook and surrounding areas. A Ruse Burglary begins with the suspects driving around residential neighborhoods looking for elderly persons outside their home or homes that appear to be occupied by elderly persons. Once located, the offender(s) approach a potential victim and claim to be utility workers, city employees, cable TV technicians or contractors. The suspects will then gain entry to the residence using the ruse of checking for a potential alleged problem (water pressure, fuses, wires, pipes, fence line issues, etc.) or needing something (bucket of water, a drink of water, use of the phone, etc.). Once inside the home, one of the suspects will keep the victim distracted or lure them outside of the residence to ask a question. Then one or more additional suspects unknowingly enter the home and commit a theft, generally targeting cash and jewelry.

There are several ways to prevent these types of crime and protect potential victims, first and foremost being community awareness. We are asking residents to spread the word and call 911 immediately in reference to any suspicious activity, persons, or vehicles in the community.

As always, if there are any questions in regards to this alert or any future crime alerts please do not hesitate to call. It is a priority of the Willowbrook Police Department that we work together with the residents and raise community awareness to ensure that we remain one of the safest communities.

The Willowbrook Police Department