



Beware of Deception Burglaries

Deception Burglary- a burglary committed by a person(s) gaining entry into a home by falsely presenting him/herself as an employee of a particular company. These impersonators use false covers such as; utility companies, delivery companies, and companies such as plumbing or electrical contractors. A common ploy being used is; "A pipe broke down the block and we have to check the water." Once inside, the perpetrator(s) manipulate and distract a victim while pocketing their valuables.

- Do not become a victim, do not allow strangers into your home
- Verify alleged water company conditions by calling 311 for connection to the Department of Environmental Protection
- To verify gas and electric issues, call Con Edison at 1-800-752-6633
- Do not hesitate to call 911

These criminals often target elderly victims, and operate during normal business hours (9am-5pm), making them less likely to question the situation.

The Crime Prevention Section would like to share the following information to help you avoid becoming a victim of a deception burglary:

- If an unsolicited person(s) comes to your door offering work inside your home:
 - Do not open the door
 - Stay inside your home
 - Verify his/her I.D. through the view finder (peephole)
 - Contact the company to verify employee's legitimacy (company numbers may be looked up via internet or on your bill)
 - Keep a list of utility companies phone numbers in a convenient location
 - Do not invite anyone into your home while you verify a "work order."
 - If you can not verify the I.D., feel unsafe, or suspect criminal activity, call 911 immediately

REMEMBER

NEVER give out any financial information, particularly ... Social Security Number

Credit card information

Bank account information

