



CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748
CLEARWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT, 645 PIERCE STREET, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756
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POLICE DEPARTMENT

RELEASE # 11-104
September 13, 2011

Contact: Elizabeth Watts
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DISTRACTION SCAM TARGETS SENIOR WOMAN

WHO: **Suspect #1:** Hispanic male
Clean cut
Approx. Height: 5'6"
Approx. Weight: 150 lbs.
Slight Accent
LSW: White button down shirt, light blue jeans, grey baseball cap
Vehicle: Silver Minivan

Suspect #2: No information available

Victim: 90-year-old female

WHAT: Residential Burglary/Distracted Scam

WHEN: September 10, 2011
4:15 p.m.

WHERE: 1700 block Starlight Drive
Clearwater, Fla.

SUMMARY: An unknown suspect made contact with the victim at her residence and offered to cut her bushes for free. While one suspect distracted the victim, a second suspect entered her room without her knowledge and stole jewelry and cash. The victim did not see the second suspect but stated that the first suspect never left her sight. She was unaware of the burglary until September 11 and then notified police.

Distraction scammers use the same method of operation (MO) – one talks, while the other steals.





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- Always be skeptical of any stranger who asks to enter your home, especially if two people try to enter.
- Keep your back door locked so a scammer doesn't have easy access while you are engaged at your front door.
- Notify police if you believe you have been contacted by distraction scammers.



"EQUAL EMPLOYMENT AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER"