



Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

Criminals use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. They often combine sophisticated technology with age-old tricks to get people to send money or give out personal information. They add new twists to old schemes and pressure people to make important decisions on the spot. One thing that never changes: they follow the headlines — and the money.

This edition of RPD Community Newsletter features tips to help keep your personal property and identity information safe. Please share this information with family, friends, and neighbors.

UPCOMING RPD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 4-31

Raleigh Police Department Museum Exhibit
City of Raleigh Museum
220 Fayetteville Street

May 6, 8 a.m.

Team Raleigh Send Off Annual LE Memorial Bike Ride
Raleigh Police Memorial
222 W. Hargett Street

May 12, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Meet the RPD K-9s
City of Raleigh Museum
220 Fayetteville Street

May 15

National Peace Officers Memorial Day

May 21, 10 a.m.

Wake County Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony
Meymandi Concert Hall
Duke Energy for the Performing Arts

PROTECTING YOUR IDENTITY WHEN YOUR SMARTPHONE IS STOLEN

Many robberies now involve smart phones—endangering the physical safety of victims, as well as the security of the personal information on the stolen devices. In addition to the loss and injury experienced during the initial crime, there is an added risk of identity theft if the stolen smartphone isn't password protected to prevent a thief from



getting access to private information on the device.

If a person's smart phone is lost or stolen, he or she may now contact the carrier and ask to have that device remotely disabled. If a smart phone is rendered inactive in

such a manner, it's often considered to be as useful as a "brick." These "bricked" phones are of little use to thieves because they can't be re-activated after being sold on the black market. Victims of smart phone thefts are encouraged to call their carriers and to "brick it" in an effort to deter smart phone theft.

By bricking your phone, you will permanently disable your device and help us eliminate the black market for stolen smart phones. We can reduce robberies by eliminating the reason criminals steal smart phones in the first place!

LOWER YOUR RISK OF BECOMING A VICTIM OF A DOOR-TO-DOOR SCAM

Even though we are living in the age of the data breach and other online scams, dishonest people will still use old fashioned techniques to steal from you. This is due to the simple fact that these methods still work. One of these old-school tactics is the door-to-door scam.

In a door-to-door scam, the fraudster knocks on your door and typically offers a product or service, but their primary goal is to steal from you. They will typically do this by convincing you to pay cash up-front for a service that is never rendered, or distracting you while an accomplice ransacks your home.

The following tips will help to lower the risks of becoming a victim of a door-to-door scam:

- Keep your doors locked, even while you are home.
- Just say no. Prepare and practice a script in which you decline any immediate offer presented by a contractor going door-to-door.
- Take time to investigate. Request licensing information as well as a list of local references so you can check a contractor's record and work before hiring. Record an accurate description of the vendors and their vehicle.
- Always ask for identification.
- Have unexpected service people wait outside while you contact their company or employer at their main phone number. Be sure to look up the company's contact information in the phone book or online. Do not use the number listed on the individual's business card, as it may be fake.
- Ask the person to leave their information and return next week. This will give you plenty of time to verify their credentials and the validity of the visit.
- If you live alone, never share this information with an unsolicited visitor.
- Never give cash to door-to-door people who are offering a service or demanding payment.
- Be cautious of people that demand immediate and up-front payment.
- Tell your neighbors about any unusual experiences you have had or observed. This could help them avoid becoming victims.
- If you have any doubts, call police immediately. As always, please don't hesitate to call 911 to report any suspicious activity.



MEET RPD'S TRAUMA COUNSELOR



Kimberly Jackson-Luzader is a professional counselor who is available to provide counseling, emotional support and community resource referrals following a traumatic event to which Department personnel responded. An example of a traumatic incident could include: a motor vehicle

fatality or serious injury crashes, death investigations, assaults, and human trafficking incidents.

Since joining the Department in October 2016, Kimberly has worked with countless victims as well as their families to help cope after experiencing a traumatic event. Kimberly is the first person to hold such a position within the Department. The Department proposed their need for the position to City Council after realizing that it was necessary to have someone dedicated to provide support to those that had been involved in serious traumatic incidents.