

RUSE BURGLARIES

Ruse burglaries are a distraction technique to occupy homeowners, allowing an accomplice to burglarize a home.

Here's what you need to know about this type of crime:

HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

- ◆ An individual knocks at the door and uses a ruse to maneuver the homeowner outside or to another area of the house
- ◆ Common ruses include utility worker, cable TV technician, tree trimmer, contractor, etc.
- ◆ While one individual distracts the homeowner, another enters the house to commit the theft
- ◆ The thieves are very persistent and pushy to get the victim(s) to comply with their plan
- ◆ Cash and jewelry from the bedroom are the most common targets
- ◆ The elderly are most commonly victimized in ruse burglaries

WHAT CAN I DO?

- ◆ Never allow anyone inside your home without a prescheduled appointment
- ◆ If an individual claims affiliation with your local government, ask the person to produce identification and call the government office to verify the individual
- ◆ Do not exit your home with an unscheduled visitor, leaving your home and valuables as potential targets
- ◆ Keep an extra watch on elderly neighbors & family members reminding them of these types of criminal behaviors
- ◆ Educate your relatives and neighbors (especially the elderly), informing them ruse burglaries are on the rise in the Chicagoland area
- ◆ Immediately report any suspicious activity or vehicles (including make, model and license plate number when possible) by calling 9-1-1