

## Stay Safe from Distraction Burglaries

## What Is a Distraction Burglary?

Distraction burglaries happen when criminals try to enter your home by pretending to be someone they're not, like utility workers, charity representatives, or someone in need. While they distract you, an accomplice may steal valuables from your home.

## What to Watch Out For:

Strangers claiming to be from utility companies or charities

Requests for help (e.g., needing to use your phone or bathroom)

Individuals with fake uniforms, badges, or ID

People who seem overly charming or persuasive



Elderly or vulnerable individuals who may be more trusting

**How to Protect Yourself:** 

LOCK your doors at all times, even when you're home STOP and think, are you expecting anyone?

CHAIN the door if you have a security chain

CHECK credentials by calling the company directly (not using a number the visitor provides)

DON'T let strangers in, even if they seem official

CALL 9-1-1 or the Florence Township Police if anything seems suspicious

**→**Police Contact Information:

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: (609) 267-8300

Additional Safety Tips:

Talk to your neighbors, watch out for each other

Report suspicious activity immediately

Educate elderly family members and friends about these scams

By staying alert and cautious, you can help prevent distraction burglaries in our community.

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT