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## St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

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# News Release

*Corporal James Grimaldi*

*Public Information*

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### **Beware of Solicitation Scams**

Sheriff Greg Champagne would like the public to be aware of a possible scam recently plaguing the streets of St. Charles Parish.

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office was made aware of multiple incidents involving subjects going door to door soliciting roofing repair work to homeowners. Investigators with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office have recently learned of the possible scam that appears to be targeting elderly residents of the parish. In the reported incidents this week, which are alarmingly similar, three Hispanic males driving a white work truck solicited an elderly resident for roofing work. In one incident, it appears that the extent of the work done was spraying a black substance on the roof of the home, which the roofers wished to bill the resident \$7,100 for. In another incident the roofers were allowed access to the interior of the home in order to "inspect for roof damage." After leaving and performing no work, the home owner discovered that a bottle of prescription medications was missing from the home.

The Sheriff's office is seeking any information which would lead to the identity of these subjects, but also urges you to stay cautious about solicitors such as these. Reputable contractors typically do not go door to door looking for work, and would also give a written quote on a price prior to any work being done. In St. Charles Parish, anyone wishing to conduct door to door solicitation must have a permit issued to them. As listed in the St. Charles Parish Ordinance under Sec. 13-723; "The solicitation of any residence without the solicitor being in possession of a valid solicitors permit is prohibited. Solicitor shall upon demand of any resident, occupant and or law enforcement officer, produce said permit along with photo identification."

If you have any information in relation to the above incident, or you wish to report any illegal door to door solicitation, please contact the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office at (985)783-6807.