



KENNEBUNK POLICE DEPARTMENT

KENNEBUNK, MAINE

MEMORANDUM



Robert F. MacKenzie, Chief of Police
Joan L. Fox, Court Officer/Administrative Assistant

Daniel Jones, Patrol Commander
Anthony J. Bean Burpee, Prof. Standards/C.I.D. Commander

On Wednesday, July 10, 2013, Kennebunk Police Officers arrested two men on felony theft charges after allegedly stealing from an elderly Kennebunk resident. On Tuesday, July 9th, family members of the victim reported the incident to police after they suspected door-to-door transient sellers took advantage of their relative. Police were told two men approached the victim wanting to complete various house projects and then pressured the victim into writing a \$2,600.00 check that was then cashed at a local bank. The very next day, Wednesday, July 10th, the same pair returned to the same victim and attempted to obtain another \$3,500.00 check. Fortunately Officer Christopher Russell arrived at the residence to check in with the victim minutes after the suspects left and subsequently alerted fellow officers to look for the suspects. Kennebunk Police arrested the two men at a nearby convenience store minutes later. Sebastian Rose, 22, of Saco, was charged with 2 counts of Theft by Deception, Class C crimes, and Matthew Mills, 22, of Camp Ellis, was charged with 1 count each of Theft by Deception, Class C and Violating Conditions of Release, a Class E crime.

Police say these types of incidents are far too common, as individuals will target elderly residents wanting to complete various types of home repair or yard work. These individuals sometimes are very pushy in an attempt to intimidate the elderly into completing the work, many times charging the resident much more than the job would normally cost.

Residents are urged to be cautious when solicited by door-to-door transient sellers. Although there are legitimate businesses that operate by going door-to-door, there are many scam artists looking to take advantage of people, especially the elderly. In many instances as the one listed above, once the victim has been victimized, the suspects or accomplices come back to the same victim to victimize over and over again. The Kennebunk Police Department urges residents to use caution when dealing with door-to-door transient sellers, be skeptical and talk to family/friends before committing to having work completed or paying for work. Above all, call your local police department should you suspect you are or were a target of a scam. There are laws that protect the consumers and the police want to hear from residents if they suspect a possible scam.



Matthew Mills



Sebastian Rose

4 SUMMER ST. • KENNEBUNK, ME. • 04043-6642

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1 • NON-EMERGENCY: (207) 985-6121 • FAX: (207) 985-8769

<http://kennebunkpolice.maine.org>

