



Suspicious Solicitors

Here are some tips on what to do if someone suspicious approaches your home.

- Make it clear to the knocker that you are home. Sometimes people will knock on the door to see if the house is unoccupied; it's better to make them aware of an occupied house rather than for them to discover your presence unexpectedly in a worst case scenario.
- When criminals case your home, whether or not this is accomplished by knocking, they are looking for vulnerable residences. Decrease your home's objective vulnerability by displaying indications of alarm coverage, presence of camera/recording, or visibly apparent deterrents such as lighting, unobstructed views to the street, etc. For more crime prevention tips, go to our Crime Prevention Services webpage (<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/OPD/s/cfaq/index.htm>). The **Residential Burglary** link provides a fact sheet targeting prevention of home burglaries.
- If your gut tells you there is something wrong:
 - Call non-emergency (777-3333). Even though a call of this type may not be prioritized for immediate response, your call and information is placed into a formal record database from which we can later extract context, circumstances, and details in the event a crime is later reported to have occurred.
 - If you are able to compile, communicate, and share information and observations from neighbors, all the better. Attend a Neighborhood meeting (NCPC or Watch) and discuss your concern.
 - Use NextDoor.com as a way to share this information, build relationships, awareness, and communication with neighbors and your police commanders.
 - If the knock accompanies any attempt at trying or forcing your doors or windows, call 911.
 - In all cases, the more information – and more details of situation and descriptions – the better.
 - If you wish to report anonymously, utilize Nixle.com.