



CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON | ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

PORT WASHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT ALERT

ROOFING SCAM

Traveling suspects use roofing scam targeting elderly victims totaling over \$1,000,000 in losses throughout Wisconsin and Minnesota.

The suspect vehicle was described as a newer GMC or Chevrolet model 2500 4-door crew cab, either pewter, gray or silver in color with matching topper. The suspects target the elderly (usually age 75 and older), posing as roofing experts. They will "inspect" the outside of roof then ask to enter the victim's residence to continue "inspecting" for water damage or leaks.

Once inside, one suspect will distract the resident while the others make their way around the residence in search of valuables. They may also request money for the "inspection" or future work they claim will be done. Items stolen include cash, collector coins, jewelry (with only the most expensive items taken and cheap items left behind), safes, bonds and other types of negotiable financial instruments.

The suspects are commonly described as Hispanic or Greek, but most likely are actually Romani. Several victims stated the suspects had accents or overheard them speaking in a foreign language.