

## Beware of Confidence Scams

In December 2007, a group of men described as White or Hispanic started targeting elderly people posing to be from the Water Department, Nipsco, tree cutting service, etc. In some occasions these men have worn vests and hardhats and used walkie-talkie radios to communicate with each other. The way they operate is one of the men comes to the door and tries to take you to a room or the basement of your house away from the door. Once he is inside, the other men enter the unlocked door and search your house for something to steal (Usually money or jewelry).

The Hammond Police Department is requesting that if someone comes to your door that you don't know or are not expecting, call the police right away (911) and do not let them into your home. When the police get there, we will check them out and make sure they are legitimate. We would rather be called on a false alarm than not be called and miss an opportunity to catch these men.

Anyone with information on these types of crimes should call Lt. Mike Daniels 852-2961 or Sgt. Steve Guernsey 852-2978.