



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FROM WELD COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY KENNETH R. BUCK
FOR THE C.A.S.E. PROGRAM**

FRAUD ALERT!

BEWARE OF DOOR-TO-DOOR SCAM IN WELD COUNTY



Recently the District Attorney's Office became aware of a possible door-to-door scam occurring in Weld County. This particular scam was brought to our attention by Weld County's Department of Human Services (DHS) and may involve Low Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) clients: a couple in Weld County answered their door to a man who asked if they had received their LEAP check. Luckily, this couple did not let the man in their house and reported the unusual event to DHS.

First, LEAP rarely, if ever, sends anyone to client residences — all the information LEAP needs is already in the state system. Second, if a LEAP client is eligible for weatherization, the agency providing weatherization will make an appointment directly with the client and will never ask the status of a LEAP check. Also, all technicians with this program have identification (ID) badges. If someone shows up at your door claiming to be with any agency, ask to see their agency or company ID. If they can't provide it, be suspicious, do not let that person into your house and contact the agency or company directly to ask if they have an employee dispatched to your home.

This situation reminds us that we can never be too careful when it comes to protecting ourselves. Here are some quick reminders for everyone to be aware of when it comes to door-to-door activity:

- Beware of all door-to-door solicitors
- Ask to see identification. If you think there may be some legitimacy to the door-to-door call, contact the agency (through a phone number you find in the phone book or through your own records — NOT from the person at your door) and confirm that they have sent someone to your house
- NEVER LET STRANGERS INTO YOUR HOME
- Never rely on verbal promises or agreements
- Ask for written literature, business cards, etc., (thieves usually won't have this with them)
- Know that it is okay to NOT answer the door to a stranger

We can't always guess the intent of people, but the reality is we don't know if this person was trying to scam someone out of their LEAP check or if they were checking to see if the house was empty. Regardless, it is a good reminder that we need to take precautions when it comes to door-to-door contact.

Contact your local police agency if you think you are a victim of a crime.
To contact the Weld County District Attorney's Office, call (970) 356-4010 ext. 4702.
To view other Fraud Alerts, please go to www.weldda.com and look in the Community Information tab.