

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



Larry Campbell, Sheriff

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LCSO, TPD and FDLE Investigating Sex Crimes

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Tallahassee Police Department have joined with the Leon County Sheriff's Office to create an investigative Task Force which will focus on two reported sexual batteries which recently occurred in the Killlearn Acres neighborhood.

The first reported sexual battery occurred on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at approximately 9:00p.m. An unknown suspect entered the back yard of a residence with a privacy fence and entered the victim's home through an unlocked rear sliding glass door. The female victim was home alone and the suspect was in the residence for approximately 15-20 minutes. The suspect's face was covered and only a vague description is available, which is possibly a white male in his 30's or 40's.

Another sexual battery was reported in the same neighborhood which occurred Saturday, May 1, 2010, at approximately 12:30a.m. An unknown suspect entered the back yard of a residence with a privacy fence and entered the home through an unlocked rear sliding glass door. The elderly female victim was home alone and the suspect was in the residence for approximately 30 minutes. The suspect's face was covered and only a vague description is available, which is possibly a white male in his 20's or 30's.

"The creation of this investigative Task Force is in response to the serious nature of these crimes and of the danger posed by violent sexual predators" said Sheriff Larry Campbell. "I thank FDLE and TPD for assisting in the formation of this Task Force whose mission is to prevent another attack and capturing the criminal, or criminals, who committed these violent crimes".

This Task Force will be focused on the following:

- Identify and arrest the suspect, or suspects, who are responsible for these crimes.
- Identify, evaluate and process any forensic evidence collected at each scene.
- Use the information and any forensic evidence obtained during this investigation to identify suspects.
- Determine if these crimes were committed by the same suspect.
- Implement a sex crime counter measure plan to prevent future sexual batteries

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In addition to these investigative efforts the Leon County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing as much information as possible to the public about these crimes and this investigation. Protecting the identity of a person who is the victim of a sex crime and providing public safety information to citizens about a reported crime in their area is of paramount importance. Any information which may assist citizens with personal safety efforts or serve to further this investigation will be released.

Based on the information obtained specific to these crimes, citizens are urged to take the following safety measures:

- Whenever you are home alone and before you go to bed ensure that you lock all outside doors and windows. Even if you are going to be at home alone for a short time, lock your doors and windows.
- Check your home for security vulnerabilities such as sliding glass doors, garage doors and back doors. These are most homes' weak spots and the areas you should give extra attention.

Based on these two attacks, special attention should be given to securing sliding glass doors. Sliding glass doors can be the easiest place for a criminal to gain entry into your home. Placing a strong metal or wooden bar, such as a metal pipe or broomstick handle, inside the track is an easy and effective security measure to prevent the doors from being opened. Also consider locking devices that secure the doors to the frame or track and locking hinges that slide over the tracks may prevent the door from being forced open.

- In these cases homes with privacy fences may have been targeted. Criminals take advantage of the cover from neighbors or passing citizens, which privacy fences may provide.
- Doors and windows that are obscured by a privacy fence, dense trees, bushes and shrubs require special attention and should remain locked.
- Ensure that your residence has adequate exterior lighting and that exterior lights are used at night. The addition of a motion-sensitive light is recommended for backyards.

Contact the Leon County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit at (850) 922-3331 to arrange for a residential security survey of your home. This service is provided free of charge and will provide you with crime prevention advice **specific** to your home. Also the Crime Prevention Unit will provide you with information on becoming a member of an existing Neighborhood Crime Watch group or starting one.

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