

# JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



**Larry Campbell, Sheriff**  
Leon County Sheriff's Office  
2825 Municipal Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32304  
(850) 922-3300  
[www.leoncountysos.org](http://www.leoncountysos.org)

**Dennis Jones, Chief**  
Tallahassee Police Department  
234 East Seventh Avenue  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 891-4200  
[www.talgov.com/tpd/](http://www.talgov.com/tpd/)



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### UPDATE: Sexual Battery Investigations

The Leon County Sheriff's Office, the Tallahassee Police Department and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement continue investigating two sexual batteries in the Killlearn Acres neighborhood. In response to the cases, the three agencies have joined forces to share resources, exchange information and pursue investigative leads in an attempt to bring resolution to the crimes.

In the effort to assist in these investigations, the Leon County Sheriff's Office has added an anonymous information page to its web site. The page was created so that citizens can learn information available about the cases and provide any information they may have. Tips provided are reviewed and assigned for follow up as they are received. For more information, visit the Leon County Sheriff's Office web site at [www.leoncountysos.com](http://www.leoncountysos.com)

In continuing to pursue these cases, the task force has established an increased presence in the area and has been aggressively searching for any suspicious activity. The heightened presence of law enforcement has led to many citizen contacts. In addition to contacts with Deputies, Detectives, Officers and Special Agents, neighborhood residents have increased their vigilance as well, and several have expressed interests in forming a neighborhood crime watch. As Crime Scene experts from all three agencies continue to pursue forensic leads, Detectives say the investigations are moving forward.

In a similar situation, on Monday, May 10, the Leon County Sheriff's Office received an Attempted Burglary report that involved someone tampering with a rear sliding glass door; however, no entry was made to this residence.

Sheriff Larry Campbell stated, "The safety of all Leon County citizens is our priority and we are working together to take whoever is responsible for these incidents off of our streets."

**Sgt. James McQuaig**  
Public Information Officer  
Leon County Sheriff's Office  
Office - (850) 922-0732

**Officer Dave McCranie**  
Public Information Officer  
Tallahassee Police Department  
Office - (850) 891-4255

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Citizens are urged to remember 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 incidents, 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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