

Door to Door sales in University Place

Do Solicitors / Peddlers in University Place need to be licensed?

Yes. Solicitation businesses must complete a solicitor license application and submit to the City. The permit is reviewed by various City Department Heads, including the Chief of Police. Additionally, an individual solicitor must receive a background check and approval of the Police Chief.

Are ALL representatives of a soliciting entity required to carry a license?

Yes. All solicitors are required to carry the license on their person while soliciting. It is good practice to ask to see this license and if there is no proof of a license neighbors can report activity to police by calling non-emergency at 798-4722 (24 hours). Your police team has an interest in people disguising themselves as door to door salespeople. There are many legitimate vendors that use this method to sell things and there are many who simply use it as a cover and mean to do you harm. Plain and simple, if they don't have a license we want to know about it.

Are there lawful times for a person to peddle and solicit?

Yes...

October 1 through April 30 between 10AM and 6PM of any day

May 1 through September 30 between 10AM and 8PM of any day

If you are getting people at your door outside of these time frames please report it to non-emergency (24 hours) at 798-4722.



Residents who are concerned about door to door sales or get that “uneasy feeling” should report it to police by calling non-emergency at 798-4722.

Nobody knows your neighborhood better than you do. Don't assume that police know about the issue. It is your neighborhood; you have an obligation to your neighbors to keep it safe. Don't talk yourself out of an “uneasy feeling.” Your police team relies on those reports to partner with you to solve crime.

UNIVERSITY PLACE
POLICE

Preventing
Burglary



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Things your burglar won't tell you...

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.

2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.

3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste ... And taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.

4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.

5. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.

6. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom-and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.

7. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door-understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.

8. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

9. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

10. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.

11. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.



12. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a timing device to turn your TV or lights on and off while you are away.

13. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.

14. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

15. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

16. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?

17. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets

18. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.

19. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation. right in.

20. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

Sources: Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California, and Kentucky; security consultant Chris McGoey, who runs crimedoctor.com; and Richard T. Wright, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book *Burglars on the Job*.