

# CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

The Hinsdale Police Department wants to remind residents to be cautious and take steps to ensure they verify the identity and sponsorship of door-to-door solicitors before making donations.

The Hinsdale Police Department offers these tips related to phone and in person solicitations:

- Whether in person or by phone, be aware of solicitors using high pressure tactics or solicitors who prey upon your sympathies to get an immediate donation
- Never make arrangements to have someone pick up money from your home
- Be aware that while your caller ID may show a local number many phone solicitors are actually calling from across the state or even out-of-state
- Be suspicious when asked for 'cash' only donations
- Always verify the name of the organization to include their address, phone number and the identity of the caller or the person at your door step
- At your convenience research the charity online before you make a decision to donate
- Never assume that a friendly voice belongs to a trustworthy caller
- Never allow a solicitor into your home to use the bathroom or to complete paperwork
- Always ask for identification or to see their Village of Hinsdale Solicitor's permit before listening to any sales pitch
- When paying for a product, always use a check. Be sure to write the check out to the organization and not to the individual soliciting. Always get a receipt
- Never give your credit card number or Social Security number to a solicitor
- If a product seems too inexpensive or too good to be true, it probably is
- Pick up a Village of Hinsdale " No Solicitors" (3-11-5-A) sticker at the Hinsdale Police Department
- Do contact the Police Department if a solicitor will not take no for an answer, is very aggressive, violates the No Soliciting law or seems very suspicious

**ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS INFORMATION MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER: MICHAEL COUGHLIN, 630-789-7084, [MCOUGHLIN@VILLAGEOFHINSDALE.ORG](mailto:MCOUGHLIN@VILLAGEOFHINSDALE.ORG) 121 SYMONDS DRIVE, HINSDALE, ILLINOIS, 60521.**