

DPS warns of aggressive summer door to door alarm salespersons

Written by Betsy Blevins
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May 19, 2011 - The Texas Department of Public Safety is urging Texas residents to make sure that any alarm salesperson, company or alarm installer that they hire is licensed by the DPS Regulatory Services Division.

Historically, some alarm salespersons have aggressively marketed their services to residents in municipalities--primarily going door to door in neighborhoods. DPS is working with the alarm industry trade associations to provide information to citizens regarding licensed companies and individuals.

"If someone offering alarm-related services shows up at your door unsolicited, ask them for their DPS Private Security pocket card, which will also have their picture," said Assistant Director Ren Earl Bowie of the DPS Regulatory Services Division. "Do not accept any other form of identification as proof you are dealing with a licensed salesperson or installer."

Alarm companies and installers must be licensed to operate legally in the state of Texas. The licensing process includes a criminal background check to help ensure the safety of the public.

To check whether a salesperson or installer is licensed in Texas, please visit the following link:

http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/individual/individual_search.aspx

To check whether an alarm company is licensed in Texas, please visit the following link:

http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/company/company_search.aspx

"Beware of aggressive tactics, or of someone trying to push you into making a decision immediately," said Bowie. "We have had numerous complaints of substandard work

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and broken promises in these situations."