



Portsmouth Fire Department
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For Immediate Release
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Firefighter Impersonator in Portsmouth

Portsmouth Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services is currently investigating a report of an individual identifying himself as a firefighter and trying to make entry into residences in Portsmouth while claiming to be performing home safety inspections. The individual, described as being a male of European or Asian descent, was not in uniform and did not present city identification.

To ensure the safety of our citizens, we want everyone to be aware that if Portsmouth firefighters have business in your neighborhood, they will be in uniform and will have appropriate city credentials. Fire investigators may be in civilian attire, but will always have their law enforcement badges and city identification in plain view. Further, home safety surveys are only conducted at the request of a resident and will be scheduled so that the resident knows when to expect firefighters.

If you are approached by an individual claiming to be a firefighter and you are unsure of their identity, call 9-1-1 immediately and do not allow them into your home. The Emergency Communications Center will verify the presence and identity of any legitimate fire department personnel at your residence.

Anyone with knowledge of this individual, please contact the Portsmouth Fire Marshal office at 393-8689.

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