

WHAT TO DO IF AN UNKNOWN PERSON COMES TO YOUR DOOR

- Answer the door (let the person know someone is home in case a burglar is looking for an unoccupied home) **but do not open the door**. Talk to the person through the door. Don't worry about being rude; this is about your safety, not their feelings.
- Do not give the person cash
- If someone claims to be in distress, offer to call 911 for them; again, keep the door closed.
- If you are suspicious about the person, call 911 and give the best description of the person possible (height, weight, body shape, skin tone, hair, age, clothing, any associated vehicle) as well as the direction the person went when they left your home.
- Alert neighbors to the person going door to door so they are aware and can be watchful

DOOR-TO-DOOR SELLERS

In Seattle, all door-to-door sellers must display the City issued residential sales identification on their outer clothing. This ID shows the seller's photo and name as well as the name of the business and product or service they represent.

- Door-to-door sellers can only sell the product or service listed on their City issued ID
- Legitimate company representative will be properly identified and will be carrying a copy of their company's business license.
- Door-to-door sellers cannot come to your home before 8 am or after 9 pm.
- They need to honor any No Solicitor signs
- A Seattle business license is required. If you have any questions, you can check online at <http://seattle.gov/biz/> or call the City of Seattle's division of Business Regulatory Services at 206.684.8136; after business hours, you may call 911 for a police response.
- Disclosure Required: Each residential seller shall, immediately upon contacting the prospective buyer disclose their name, company and the product or service represented.
- If you are not interested in what you see do not open the door and request through the door that the individual leave.
- If requested to do so, they are required by law to leave.

Exemptions from the Residential Sellers license requirement include individuals who are:

- (1) Selling newspapers
- (2) Selling perishable food items
- (3) Holding home sales parties
- (4) Acting on behalf of a regulated utility
- (5) Soliciting orders for goods, which are to be accepted and goods delivered at a future date from a place outside of Washington State.

Political canvassers and candidates are also exempted from the door-to-door guidelines.

- **Use Good Judgment** It is safer to not allow the salesperson into your home.
- Avoid paying immediately (especially with cash or credit card) Instead find out how to order directly from company or receive a bill upon receipt of product/service
- Do not let the seller into your home to use the bathroom or to get water.

If you feel intimidated, pressured, or threatened at any time, call 911