



SHERIFF

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Sheriff's Office issues community alert following recent jewelry theft scam

SAN MATEO COUNTY, Calif. – The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office is issuing a warning to community members following at least one report of a recent jewelry theft scam that targeted an elderly resident in West Menlo Park.

The scam, which is known to law enforcement, often targets unsuspecting or elderly residents in public places such as parking lots, parks, or even outside of the person's home. Thieves use deceptive tactics to steal valuable items such as jewelry from their victims.

During the recent report, which took place on October 14 in West Menlo Park, a resident was walking in their neighborhood when a man and a woman approached the victim and asked for directions. After assisting them, the woman exited the vehicle and gave the victim a hug. After the vehicle drove away, the victim noticed that her diamond necklace had been taken. The necklace had been given to the victim by her late husband.

The Sheriff's Office is actively investigating the theft and will use all available resources to track down the suspects.

In hopes of preventing further crimes, the Sheriff's Office is spreading awareness of the recent theft and sharing the following safety tips.

- Remain vigilant and use caution when approached by strangers, especially in situations that seem overly friendly or invasive.
- If you encounter such a scenario, maintain a safe distance and avoid physical contact.
- If you feel unsafe, leave the area immediately and report suspicious activity to law enforcement.

Residents are encouraged to report similar incidents or suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office by calling 650-363-4911.