

Halton Seniors targeted by thieves

Halton Police have photos, but no names, for a couple who duped elderly people by asking for directions to the hospital.

On Wednesday Halton police released suspect descriptions for the couple who target elderly in grocery and retail stores, distracting their victim by asking them to point out directions on a map, which they place over the victim's wallet or purse and steal it.

The female suspect is a Caucasian in her mid 30s to 40s, slim build, approximately between 5'7

and 5'8", with long dark hair and a European accent. The male suspect is described as Caucasian, in his mid 30s to 40s, approximately 5'6 to 5'8", with dark hair and a European accent.

Detectives have determined the suspects have targeted at least six different victims since August 6. The pair appears to be operating primarily in the Oakville and Burlington areas, and targeting seniors who are shopping alone.

"Unfortunately, this is another variation of a crime targeting our elderly

population under the guise of someone in distress and asking the senior for help - in this case, needing directions to the hospital," said Constable Wendy Moraghan, Elder Services Coordinator.

"Seniors can help police by being extremely cautious when approached by a stranger asking for assistance. Direct them to a store clerk instead, and ensure your personal property is protected and in your sight at all times."

The Halton Regional Police Service Regional Fraud Unit continues

its investigation into this case, and is seeking public assistance to identify the suspects. If you, or

an elderly relative, has been scammed, or if you have any information related to the investigation,

call Detective Brad Murray at 905- 825-4747 ext: 8982, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



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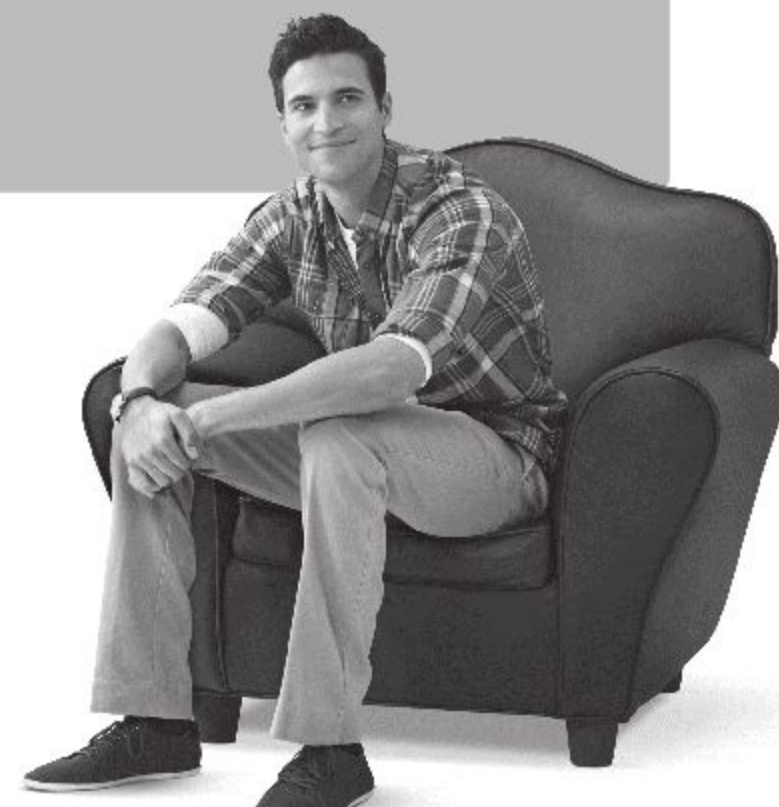
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