

DURHAM REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE



JEWELRY DISTRACTION THEFTS TARGETING SENIORS



Have you been the victim of a distraction theft?

☎ Call DRPS non-emergency: 1-888-579-1520 (press 0)

💻 Report online: drps.ca

For emergencies, call 9-1-1



HOW THEFTS OCCUR

- Suspects usually work in pairs or trios, and often in a vehicle
- Victims are approached in public places, while walking, gardening and even sitting outside their own homes
- Suspects will ask for directions, give compliments, or ask victims to pray with them while offering a gift
- While the victim is distracted, the suspect will put fake jewelry on the victim while removing the victim's real jewelry.

PROTECT YOURSELF

- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings
- ✓ Keep jewelry hidden
- ✓ Be cautious if approached by strangers offering gifts or jewelry
- ✓ Trust your instincts — walk away
- ✓ Avoid physical contact
- ✓ Travel with a companion when possible
- ✓ Report suspicious behaviour to police