

Advisory: Police Warn Public regarding Fraudulent Solicitations for Charitable Donations to Local Churches

The RCIPS has learned of reports regarding fraudulent solicitations for donations from churches in George Town and West Bay in recent weeks. On February 29, police received a complaint regarding a man canvassing the neighborhood door-to-door and soliciting donations on behalf of Calvary Baptist Church on Walker's Road. This complaint is under investigation. The Church has notified the community that this person does not represent the church. The description provided is that this individual is male, of light complexion, slim build and approximately 5'10" in height (Suspect #1).

A second individual, described as being of medium-brown complexion, early 20's, well-spoken, clean-cut and well-dressed, was seen in the Coral Gable area of West Bay at the end of February soliciting donations on behalf of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (Suspect #2). A man fitting the description of Suspect #1 was also seen in West Bay when these other fraudulent solicitations occurred.

We have also been recently notified us of other similar incidents in March with individuals answering the same descriptions.

Due to these reports we would like to advise the public to exercise caution when giving donations to charity, especially when being solicited for cash donations by persons door-to-door.

Anyone witnessing suspicious behavior of the type described above is asked to report it immediately to George Town Police Station at 949-4222 (or 525-4529 if reporting on 17 March), the West Bay Police Station at 949-3999 or anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 800-8477(TIPS).

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