



# InfoLink

Information for Public Safety False Alarm Reduction Professionals

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## FARA InfoLink July 2007

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## Two New Resolutions Adopted

The FARA Board of Directors recently adopted two new resolutions; one in support of the ANSI-SIA CP-01 Control Panel Standard and the other in support of alarm and monitoring companies not requesting law enforcement dispatch when an abort or cancel signal is received.

The CP-01 Standard was created to address the fact that most false alarms caused by user errors occur during entry to, and exit from, alarm sites. Industry committees concluded that false alarms caused by these common occurrences can be significantly reduced by changing panel features and programming to conform to the CP-01 Standard. The Board believes that immediate use of control panels that are CP-01 compliant, and set to the default settings, in new installations and for alarm users/systems that show a history of false alarms will have a positive impact on the reduction of false alarms.

Additionally, some alarm systems have the capability to electronically send a cancel or abort signal if an authorized alarm user enters a correct code to turn off the system after an alarm has occurred. The purpose of the cancel or abort code is to allow alarm users to cancel an alarm signal right at the keypad when they know they have accidentally tripped the alarm. Some alarm companies already do not request dispatch when this type of signal is received; however, others still request dispatch. The alarm users generally get upset with both the law officers and their alarm company in these situations, because they expect the cancel code means no law officers will respond, and no false alarm response fee/fines will be

imposed. The resolution encourages alarm companies to implement a procedure whereby no request for law enforcement dispatch is made if an abort or cancel signal is received.

Copies of the new resolutions are available on the FARA web site at [http://www.faraonline.org/html/resolutions\\_positions.asp](http://www.faraonline.org/html/resolutions_positions.asp)

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## Committee Chairs Named

As part of FARA's effort to expand participation on committees and to free up Board members to do Board work, FARA President Norma Beaubien has appointed the following new committee chairs:

- **Communications Committee:** Co-Chairs **Amy Lobdell**, Portland Police Bureau and **Pat Killian**, Vector Security
- **Fire Committee:** Interim Chair **Jim Cogswell**, Leawood Police Department
- **Membership Committee:** **Christine Van Geest**, Hamilton Police Service, Ontario, Canada
- **Training and Certification Committee:** **Susan Clark**, Montgomery County Police Department
  - **Conference Sub-Committee:** Co-Chairs **Natasha Pitts**, Spartanburg Public Safety Department and Sgt. **Allan Rutledge**, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department
  - **Professional Certification Sub Committee-** **Kerri McDonald**, Riverside Police Department
- **Ways and Means Committee:** **W. Rex Bell**, Huntsville Police Department

President Beaubien expects to appoint a new chair of the Associate Member Committee in the very near future. A Board member has been appointed to each committee to serve in a liaison capacity to provide historical reference and mentoring to the new chairs. If you would like to serve on a committee, please contact FARA's Executive Director Brad Shipp at 301/519-9237 or [bradshipp@4yoursolution.com](mailto:bradshipp@4yoursolution.com).

"In order for FARA to continue to grow, we need to encourage new ideas and greater participation on all of our committees. The appointment of non-Board members as committee chairs is the first step in making that happen," said Beaubien.

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## FARA Awards Presented

Two FARA Achievement Awards have been presented to recipients that were not able to attend the Symposium in Dallas.

FARA's Vice President-Electronic Security Jim Cogswell, bestowed the Public Safety False Alarm Achievement Award to the **Kansas City Missouri Police Department** during the Kansas City Police Department Commissioner's meeting on May 22, 2007.



Left to right- Jennifer Atterbury (Board Atty), Commissioner Terry Brady (Board Treas.), Commissioner James Wilson (Board Pres), Commissioner Karl Zobrist (Board VP), Commissioner Mark Thompson, Mayor Mark Funkhouser, Jim Cogswell, Chief James Corwin.

Symposium attendees voted to give the award to the Kansas City Missouri Police Department for its exceptional efforts and success in reducing false burglar alarms to which officers respond.



Kansas City Missouri Police Department Alarm Unit Staff receives applause at meeting

President Norma Beaubien presented the FARA Achievement Award to the **Maryland Burglar and Fire Alarm Association** (MDBFAA) at their June 22 meeting. Symposium attendees voted to give the award to MDBFAA for their consistent willingness to work with local law enforcement agencies to solve false alarm problems, as well as for their assistance and leadership in attempts to have statewide ECV enacted. In accepting the award MDBFAA President Dick Avnet said, "It is truly an honor to receive this award and we remain committed to working with public safety especially in our continued effort to get ECV adopted statewide in Maryland".



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## Mark Your Calendars for the Charleston Symposium

Plan now to join us in historic **Charleston, South Carolina from April 21 to 25, 2008**. The Francis Marion, in the heart of downtown Charleston, will be the host hotel for the symposium. FARA has negotiated extraordinary rates of \$135 a night for the first 25 attendees from government agencies who register. Others will get the still special rate of \$179 per night. Cutoff date for the special rates is **Friday, March 21, 2008**. Call (843) 722-0600 or 1-(877) 756-2121 for reservations. For information on the Francis Marion visit their web site - <http://www.francismarioncharleston.com/>

**So Much to Do-** Check out the visitor's bureau site <http://www.charlestoncvb.com/visitors/index.html> to see why there is so much to do in Charlestown. You can stand on the site of the first shot in the Civil War, come face to face with a giant sea turtle, take a tour of an antebellum mansion, climb aboard a WWII aircraft carrier or just relax in the many blossoming gardens.

**Budget Now for Symposium Registration**

**Public Safety Registrations:**

Early Registration	Member	Non-Member	Late Registration	Member	Non-Member
Full Symposium	\$365	\$515	Full Symposium	\$411	\$561
Per Day Rate	\$99	\$249	Per Day Rate	\$119	\$269
Spouse (Meals)	\$85	\$85	Spouse (Meals)	\$85	\$85

**Associate Registrations:** (Alarm Users, Alarm Industry, and Others)

Early Registration	Member	Non-Member	Late Registration	Member	Non-Member
Full Symposium	\$415	\$565	Full Symposium	\$515	\$665
Per Day Rate	\$115	\$265	Per Day Rate	\$135	\$285
Spouse (Meals)	\$85	\$85	Spouse (Meals)	\$85	\$85

**Flight Options to Charleston Expanded-** The historic beauty of Charleston, South Carolina, is just hours away with AirTran Airways new nonstop service between Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Charleston International Airport beginning May 24, 2007. With our low introductory fares, South Carolina's seemingly endless beaches, world renowned golf and historic downtown area are closer than you think. And with AirTran Airways Business Class seating and free XM Satellite Radio, it's both enjoyable and affordable to visit this beautiful southern coastal city.

Air Tran	<a href="http://www.airtran.com">www.airtran.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-247-8726
American Eagle	<a href="http://www.aa.com">www.aa.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-433-7300
Continental	<a href="http://www.continental.com">www.continental.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-525-0280
Delta	<a href="http://www.delta.com">www.delta.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-221-1212
Northwest	<a href="http://www.nwa.com">www.nwa.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-225-2525
United Express	<a href="http://www.ual.com">www.ual.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-241-6522
US Airways	<a href="http://www.usairways.com">www.usairways.com</a>	Reservations: 1-800-428-4322

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## New Jersey Officer Injured in Van Crash

**LISA COLAGROSSI**, *Courtesy of WABC-TV*, **Updated:** June 12th, 2007

(Englewood-WABC, June 12, 2007) - A veteran New Jersey police officer is fighting for his life. Forty five-year-old Patrolman Doug Menist was critically injured in a collision with a van in Englewood.

Patrolman Doug Menist is a 15-year veteran in the Englewood Police Department. He is well liked, well respected and now he is clinging to life.

He was critically injured when responding to a house alarm on Van Nostrand Avenue yesterday afternoon. Menist was struck by a van that was pulling out of the driveway.

Officer Menist underwent surgery last night at Hackensack University Medical Center, doctors doing their best to save his life.

Englewood's police chief describes the severity of the accident.

"The officer struck the front of the delivery van and consequently left the roadway, striking the utility pole and then a tree,"

Eyewitness News is told the patrolman, married with two children, is dealing with some very serious injuries. The van driver was also injured in the accident.

*Republished with permission from WABC-TV*

#### **UPDATE:**

*Courtesy of NY1 News*  
June 21, 2007



The Englewood officer struck and severely injured while he drove his motorcycle on Van Nostrand Avenue could be on his way to making a miraculous recovery.

According the Englewood Police Department, Doug Menist has shown major signs of improvement.

"So the fact that he is discussing his family's activities and recognizes who they are, the doctor says that is very significant at this point," said Englewood Police Department Deputy Chief Arthur O'Keefe.

Meanwhile, O'Keefe says students from Lincoln Elementary School sent cards this week wishing Officer Menist a speedy recovery. The police will deliver the cards to the Menist family.

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## **Bird Habitat, Aisles 1 Through 8- House Sparrows Also Turning to Big-Box Stores for Home Improvement**

*By Nick Miroff, Washington Post Staff Writer, Sunday, July 8, 2007; C01*

*Editor's note: Big Box stores are a common source of false alarms. Their bird problem may explain many of these alarms. By working with the local manager and the alarm company, bird caused alarms can be prevented.*

Like any discerning shopper, the common house sparrow knows where to go for a good deal in the suburbs. At Lowe's, Wal-Mart, Home Depot and other keepers of vast birdseed stockpiles, the only thing standing between worry-free opulence and the travails of outdoor living is an automatic door.

Not that it's much of an obstacle. Thanks to the leafy, well-watered garden center -- now a standard appendage of the large retail layout -- clever birds are finding a niche in the big-box ecosystem, much to the chagrin of store managers. Check the ceiling of any large store with a high roof and a birdseed aisle, and there's likely to be more than a few of the feathery critters frolicking in the rafters. "Most birds want to hang out, sleep, hop around and look for food," said Rob Fergus, a senior scientist with the National Audubon Society. "If they spend enough time in a big-box store, they'll learn it's a safe place to be."

The birds' adaptation to the retail lifestyle is as much a result of suburban evolution as any avian one. While bird-control technicians are summoned to all types of buildings these days, the territorial expansion of the big-box store and its alluring combination of birdseed, human food, plants and warehouse roosting space make for a blockbuster attraction. It's Club Med for the winged set. "I can't say there's many of those stores that don't have birds in them," said George Rambo, a veteran bird catcher who owns two Critter Control franchises in the Washington area. "They're wide open, with tall shelves, and that type of construction is really attractive."

Bird-watching in Washington area stores is mostly a matter of listening for their merry chirping -- just audible over the piped-in smooth jazz -- and heading straight for the outdoor and garden section. At a Home Depot in Manassas last week, one sparrow gang was twittering around above the lawn mowers; in a nearby Wal-Mart, a solitary bird perched unruffled over big sacks of millet, not far from the skateboards and the beach towels, as if waiting patiently for all the customers to go home. "They're amazing," said one Home Depot employee who wasn't authorized to speak to reporters about birds or any other subject. "I like watching them fly around."

Stores typically draw two types of bird patrons, according to ornithologists and pest-management experts. There is the accidental visitor, a migrating finch, for instance, that, lured by bright lights and wing-tired from weeks of exertion, strays into a Kmart and can't figure out how to get back on track to Florida.



Then there's the more common variety, the habituated retail client -- usually a house sparrow. To these squat, Twinkie-size birds, big-box stores are the horse barns of the 21st century: warm, predator-free and packed with tasty morsels. Once liberated from the menace of house cats and Cooper's hawks, the boisterous little birds can live indefinitely in the store environment. "It's a smorgasbord for what their needs are," said Ron Harrison, a scientist and director of training for Orkin Inc.

And it's no fluke that house sparrows have taken a liking to our favorite retail outlets. The species hitched its fortunes to human settlements several thousand years ago in Eurasia when the first farmers began storing seed, according to Audubon's Fergus. The birds were introduced in New York in the 1850s to combat a caterpillar infestation. Incidentally, they didn't care much for the grubs but quickly took a liking to the seed-rich horse droppings scattered on the streets of Brooklyn. The sparrows' range expanded with the nation, following the railroad tracks and fanning out to farms across the continent, impelled by a kind of a seed-seeking Manifest Destiny. Said Fergus: "You hardly find them in the wild anymore."

They have flourished in suburban America, bouncing around among backyard bird feeders and the shopping centers that provision them. In several cases, retail-savvy sparrows have learned how to trip automatic doors, prompting some stores, including Lowe's, to recalibrate the sensors so the birds can't get in. "They're very curious, and they have more of a problem-solving ability than most other species," Fergus said. "These birds learn."

The animals' smarts and persistence have helped fuel the rise of a vast bird-control industry, a lucrative branch of the nation's \$6.75 billion pest-management market. Terminix, Orkin and other large companies more commonly associated with termites and roaches train specialists in catching and removing birds. Smaller brands such as Bird Barrier, Bird-B-Gone and Birdevictors.com peddle a dizzying array of avian-fighting products, including bird-proof gel and large, psychedelic balloons designed to resemble owls, as well as an assortment of spikes, nets and traps.

Of course, the birds would have simply been shot in the past. House sparrows are not a federally protected species, and some bird-control technicians say the pellet-gun method hasn't been entirely abandoned. But major retailers and pest-management companies say they do not intentionally kill birds, instead using nets, traps and deterrent methods. With one's environmentally sensitive image at stake, some companies even transport the birds far from the stores before releasing them. "We don't want to harm them," Orkin's Harrison said. "But it is a big problem."

Uric acid levels in the birds' feces can be as high as 50 percent, Harrison said, strong enough to eat through product packaging -- even paint. Bird droppings can land on food and store displays -- or customers' heads. The excrement will "sporulate" as it dries, Harrison said, and in high concentrations, it creates the risk of histoplasmosis, an uncommon but dangerous respiratory disease.

What's more, "house sparrows can be quite aggressive during mating and can swoop at people in stores," he said. All good reasons for blocking the development of an aviary above your merchandise.

And yet, efforts to discourage bird incursions are undermined by the need to maintain the kind of wide-open, welcoming store environment that human shoppers find pleasing. So some large retailers are inclined to opt for symbiosis, barring shopper complaints. "While we don't encourage birds to make the garden center their permanent home," Lowe's spokeswoman Karen Cobb said, "we peacefully coexist with the birds until our customers say they've become a nuisance for them."

And some customers like a little wildlife above the shelves. "I find it relaxing," said Teresa La Rosa, a Manassas resident browsing through a Home Depot in Prince William County last week. One set of sparrows was romping through the garden center while another, smaller flock had settled indoors above the patio furniture and the stainless-steel gas grills. "I don't feel like I'm in a store when I hear them," La Rosa said. "I feel like I'm outdoors, in nature."

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## **Hamburglar?**

### ***Hungry burglar grabs ham sandwich***

02:54 PM Mountain Standard Time on Monday, July 9, 2007 By Courtney Zubowski / KTVK reporter

Andres Flores is facing burglary charges after what investigators say he did Sunday evening at a Mesa apartment complex.

But at least the 47-year-old didn't go to jail on an empty stomach. What happened inside the south Mesa apartment where maintenance workers today are replacing a kicked-in door made the tenant lose her appetite. "I haven't ate at all today," said Crystal Trevino. It's the case of a carnivorous criminal whose motive was hunger.

"It freaked me out. I mean knowing he just busted in my door," she said. Trevino was home alone Sunday around 5:30 p.m. and was in a back bedroom. "It was quiet. I was sleeping," she said. Sleeping until police say Flores burst in armed not with a gun, but with an empty stomach.

Trevino said she didn't know what to do. She peeked around the corner. "The guy is standing at my refrigerator opening up ham, trying to make a sandwich," she said. Flores was proven to be no chicken. He broke into Trevino's apartment to make a sandwich. "I didn't know what to think," she said. His ingredient of choice was a deli-cut baked honey ham. "My bread was set up here, he brought it down on the side and he had the mayonnaise jar here," she said.

Trevino hurried back to her room and call 911. "I was actually going to crawl up here and jump out," she said. But she didn't have to. Within 15 minutes, the pilferer left the apartment and police arrived. They found Flores in the courtyard with the evidence all over his face. "Even when they caught him, he still had the mayonnaise around his mouth," she said. Investigators believe Flores may have been drunk at the time of the burglary. He's facing burglary charges.

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## House's Alarm Irks Neighbors For More Than 36 Hours- Owners Were On Vacation

**BY JEFF SCHWEERS - FLORIDA TODAY**

PORT ST. JOHN - A vacationing homeowner's burglar alarm that annoyed his Curtis Boulevard neighbors for more than 36 hours was switched off and reset Monday.

The alarm went off about 7 p.m. Saturday after power was restored to the neighborhood following a thunderstorm-induced outage, residents said. They had to endure the high-pitched whoop-whoop of the alarm because the homeowners were vacationing in Alabama. "It's been rather annoying," said Kathy Voss, who lives kitty-corner from the home.

The Brevard County Sheriff's Office said there had been at least four calls to dispatchers complaining about the noise. Deputies checked the house Sunday and found it secure with no signs anyone had tried to break in, Sgt. Frank Hickman said. The sheriff's office was unable to alert the homeowners because the phone numbers on file were out of date.

Monday morning, however, a next-door neighbor got their current number from the charter school where their children attend. Deputies called, reached the owner and got the codes needed to enter the garage and reset the alarm. By 10:30 a.m., peace had been restored. The owner was very apologetic, Hickman said.

Law enforcement agencies are inundated with thousands of nuisance and false alarms each year, even when -- unlike in this instance -- the alarms are monitored by alarm companies. Officials say about 99 percent of all home alarms turn out to be false. Many cities and counties have their own ordinances aimed at cutting the time and money police departments waste responding to those calls. Some require visual verification of an open window or door before sending an officer.

Last year, Florida became the first state to adopt "enhanced call verification," requiring that unless it is a fire alarm or a panic or duress call, an alarm company's dispatcher must call the home and one other number to verify there's a problem before calling the police. If no one answers, the alarm company calls police, who generally treat the report as a routine call.

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## RESIDENTIAL SYSTEMS - ApxAlarm aims for 130,000 accounts this summer

By Martha Entwistle, managing editor - 07.2007- Security Systems News [www.securitysystemsnews.com](http://www.securitysystemsnews.com)

PROVO, Utah--ApxAlarm--which emerged as a major player in the home security market in 2006 by generating upwards of 90,000 accounts--is well into its 2007 summer selling season, and Apx executives say they're on track to sell 130,000 accounts this summer.

Looking beyond this year, the company is considering expanding into Mexico and abroad. Apx's business model utilizes a compressed selling season, whereby most of its accounts are generated by door-to-door sales between the months of May and August. "We started selling a little earlier this year at the beginning of April [with about 20 percent of the sales and technical staff in place]," said Jack Inbar, ApxAlarm's vice president of operations.

Apx opened about 25 of its 78 offices in April. "This enabled us to work out any kinks we might have in the first few week. It's a great way for us to begin the summer," he said. As of mid June, all 78 offices in 38 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, were up and running. Inbar said Apx has approximately 1,500 sales reps and 800 technicians on board, with about 75 to 80 percent of the staff returning from last year.

While the industry has taken note of ApxAlarm's sales volume, the company's main focus, said Inbar, "is superior service and we think this is evidenced by our attrition rate from last year." Inbar said the annualized "attrition rate by pool," for the last year, not including any 2007 summer sales, is "less than six percent," which, he noted, compares to an industry average in the double digits. Inbar said the company has moved to a 60-month contract. "North of 75 percent of our contracts are 60 months, which adds tremendous value to the portfolio and certainly helps reduce attrition."

Apx wants to have its customer service call center recognized by JD Powers and Associates by December 2007, a recognition its competitor Brink's Home Security has received for several years.

It's all theoretical at this point, but ApxAlarm owners are taking a close look at expanding into Mexico and Australia. Inbar said the company is uniquely positioned to hit the ground running in Spanish-speaking and other non-English speaking countries because many of its employees are bilingual. A majority of ApxAlarm sales people and technicians come from Brigham Young University, and have completed an LDS (Latter Day Saints) mission, many in foreign countries.

Students receive intensive language training at the LDS Missionary Training Center. "With today's technology we can [expand outside the U.S. and Canada] and we have a ready pool of sales people and technicians who have done a mission in a Spanish-speaking country and are fluent in Spanish," he said.

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## Brink's Home Security Chosen for Consumers' Choice Award

**IRVING, Texas (May 22, 2007)** – Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW) citizens chose Brink's Home Security for the 2007 Consumers' Choice Award (CCA) in the category of *Home Alarm Security systems and Business Security Alarm Systems*.

"Respondents to our survey were asked to rank companies based on their experience with each business, then questioned on their opinion of each. Brink's Home Security was identified as "Best in Class" in its categories in such areas as quality, value, service and appearance of the business," said CCA Chairman Jeffrey Chernoff.

Award recipients were identified through a comprehensive and objective survey recently conducted by Survey Sampling International (SSI). SSI is the world's largest statistical sampling organization dedicated to survey research, serving 1,400 clients globally. "This recognition is a result of the focused effort by our employees to ensure the safety and security of our customers," said Carole Vanyo, Senior Vice President of Customer Operations with Brink's Home Security. "This award is a seal of excellence. Recipients are rewarded with the knowledge that they have earned the trust and loyalty of consumers," Chernoff added.

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## Two New Offices to Serve Seattle for Brink's Home Security

IRVING, Texas (July 9, 2007) – Booming sales growth for Brink's Home Security has led the company to expand its reach in the Seattle-Tacoma area. Brink's Home Security added a local office and relocated another to provide better coverage for customers.

"With the two offices, we can cover additional zip codes both north and south of the city," said Northwest Regional Director Jeff Hunt, Brink's Home Security. "We decided to add an office and move our original office to a more convenient location to help us serve our very loyal subscriber base." "We're giving customers the type of service they seek, and that is reflected in our local sales growth. Our brand name has great recognition and helped increase our share in this market. The two offices will help us better serve our 35,000 current subscribers and future customers throughout the Puget Sound area," Hunt added.

The north office is located at: 21312 30<sup>th</sup> Drive Southeast, Suite 100, Bothell, WA 98021. For sales or service, customers can call 425.486.4238.

The south office is located at: 9316 Lakeview Ave S.W., Suite A, Lakewood, WA 98499. Customers can contact the branch at 253.582.0880.

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## Featured Bulletin – Maintaining Contact with your Alarm Company

This bulletin stresses how the user taking the time to keep their alarm company informed of the latest contact information will ensure that there is no confusion about "who to call?" when an alarm occurs. And, this will also help ensure the quickest processing!

The full list of bulletins, which have been approved by the board, can be accessed on our web site at [http://www.faraonline.org/html/consumer\\_tips.html](http://www.faraonline.org/html/consumer_tips.html)



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## Featured Manual- Proactive Alarm Industry Customer Service: A Law Enforcement Perspective

One of FARAs main missions is to work with the alarm industry to reduce false alarms. This manual is intended to give a law enforcement perspective on how alarm companies can develop good business practices that will help reduce the false alarms to which law enforcement responds. The manual is based on the experience of alarm coordinators and their staffs throughout the country and addresses issues that law enforcement deals with on a daily basis. The manual covers such topics as customer education and service, employee training, verification of alarm activations, quality alarm equipment, and much, much more.

The full list of manuals, which have been approved by the board, can be accessed on our web site at <http://www.faraonline.org/html/publications.asp>. Copies of manuals can be downloaded from the member's only site.

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## Give me all the cash — and your number, baby!

### Thief hits on employee-victim after he and accomplice rob Milwaukee store

AP- Updated: 5:16 a.m. ET May 29, 2007

MILWAUKEE - A thief found out the hard way that robbing a woman isn't the best way to capture her heart. Two men robbed a U-Haul truck rental store around 3 p.m. Sunday, taking an unspecified amount of cash, according to the store's owner. But instead of fleeing, one man lingered and tried to strike up a conversation with the woman he had just robbed.

"He stuck around and was trying to get the female employee's number," U-Haul store general manager Patrick Sobocinski said. "She said he was just saying, 'Hey, baby, you're pretty fine.'" According to Sobocinski, one robber went behind the counter, put his hands around both employees' waists and demanded money. The robber forced one employee to open the register and grabbed cash. Then he forced the workers to the ground and fled, but his accomplice waited for a few moments and then asked one clerk whether she'd go out with him, he said.

"She said he was saying, 'Can I get your number and go out sometime?'" Sobocinski said. No surprise ending here — the woman turned him down, and he fled.

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### ***If he fled the scene, it was only in his dreams***

Burglary suspect found sleeping in car in garage of home that was robbed

AP- Updated: 4:35 a.m. ET May 29, 2007

WASILLA, Alaska - A suspect in the theft of handguns from a Wasilla home didn't get far, according to Alaska state troopers. He was found asleep in a vehicle parked in the home's garage, wearing a sweat shirt belonging to the woman who lives in the home. Troopers on Sunday afternoon took a call of a burglary from Lisa Siepert, 38.

She reported that someone had entered her home and removed two handguns, food and alcohol. When she looked in the garage, she found a strange man behind the wheel of her neighbor's vehicle. Siepert told troopers the man was wearing her sweat shirt and that he was unresponsive. Troopers said the suspect apparently entered the home, took the guns and broke the windshield of a pickup truck parked nearby to get inside it. The suspect then went into the garage, broke windows out of the second vehicle and fell asleep inside. Gary Olson Jr., 20, of Anchorage, was arrested. He was charged with burglary, two counts of theft involving a weapon and two counts of criminal mischief. He was transported to Mat-Su Pretrial with bail set at \$50,000.

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### ***Self-Incrimination In Triplicate?***

***Man accused of restaurant robbery leaves wallet, 3 forms of ID, police say***

AP- Updated: 7:03 p.m. ET May 15, 2007

CINCINNATI - A man accused of robbing a fast-food restaurant left lots of clues to his identity, police said. He dropped his wallet, which contained a photo identification card, his Social Security card and birth certificate, according to police. Nathan McFarland, 42, of Cincinnati, is accused of assaulting at least two KFC employees Saturday before fleeing with an undetermined amount of cash. Using the photo ID from his wallet, employees were able to identify McFarland as the robber, police said. McFarland has been charged with three counts of armed robbery. He was to be arraigned on Monday.

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### ***Burglary 101: Don't leave your prison ID behind***

***Iowa police say they tracked down suspect who left Ill. Corrections card***

AP- Updated: 3:10 p.m. ET March 15, 2007

BETTENDORF, Iowa - A burglary suspect was arrested after he left behind a Corrections Department identification card he used to jimmy a lock, authorities said. Officers said they arrested Robert Alan Fry of Rock Island, Ill., after investigating the theft Tuesday of a plastic jug containing about \$400 in change from an apartment in Bettendorf. They said they found Fry's Illinois Department of Corrections ID card at the apartment and arrested him Wednesday at a Bettendorf motel. Fry, 43, was charged with third-degree burglary, possession of drug paraphernalia and interference and was taken to the Scott County Jail, authorities said. Fry was released from the Illinois prison system in January, having served two years and three months of a 10-year sentence for a Rock Island County burglary. Inmates who are released but are without legal identification like a driver's license can receive a Corrections Department-issued ID card.

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## Please Share Your Newsletters and Tips with Us

We would like to see how you communicate with your alarm users. Please add FARA to your mailing list if you send out Newsletters or mailings with false alarm reduction information. Do you have a brochure that describes your ordinance or program? We would like to see it. Staff will review what we receive and share tips and information with your fellow members in later issues of this newsletter.

Please send your newsletters, tips and brochures to:

False Alarm Reduction Association  
10024 Vanderbilt Circle, Unit 4  
Rockville, MD 20850  
[bradshipp@4yoursolution.com](mailto:bradshipp@4yoursolution.com)

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## FARA Mission Statement

It is the mission of the False Alarm Reduction Association (FARA) to provide a forum for local government alarm ordinance professionals to exchange information on successful false alarm reduction programs, to serve as a clearinghouse for agencies seeking to reduce false alarms, and to foster an environment of cooperation among public safety, the alarm industry and the alarm users.

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## Contact Us

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**Comments and suggestions regarding FARA's InfoLink are both encouraged and welcomed. If you would like to submit an article for publication, or if you have any questions or concerns about this newsletter, please contact the FARA Board of Directors at 301/519-9237, or by email at: [info@faraonline.org](mailto:info@faraonline.org).**

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