

# Tioga County Sheriff's Office



from  
**Sheriff Gary W. Howard**

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**News Release**  
**Wednesday, June 07, 2017**

Sheriff Gary W. Howard would like to remind all citizens to think crime prevention when encountering door to door home repair and/or driveway paving solicitations.

## Prevention Tips:

- Avoid Door to Door solicitations. Rely on local contractors or ask friends and relatives for referrals.
- Always ask for a written estimate which lists all materials and costs.
- Avoid paying any money until the job is completed. Most legitimate contractors will not require money in advance.
- Be wary of contractors who claim to have left over materials from another work site or offer to perform the service far below what one would expect to pay. If the offer seems too good to be true, then it probably is.

## Avoid contractors who:

- offer you discounts for finding other customers
- only accept cash payments
- ask you to get the required building permits
- do not list a business number in the local telephone directory
- tell you your job will be a "demonstration"
- pressure you for an immediate decision
- offer exceptionally long guarantees
- ask you to pay for the entire job up-front
- suggest that you borrow money from a lender the contractor knows

The public should report any suspicious solicitations to the Sheriff's Office or any local law enforcement agency which services your area.

Approved by Undersheriff Jackson  
Posted 6/7/17 10:15 AM by Diane Rockwell