A Community Alert

Off-Campus Trespass and Impersonation of a Police Officer reported by the Harrisonburg Police Department 01-12-2013

The James Madison University Police Department is giving notice of several alleged off-campus incidents involving a male subject that attempts to gain access into residences by claiming to be an undercover police officer.

The Harrisonburg Police continue to investigate incidents that reportedly occurred Friday night, January 11, 2013 and Saturday night, January 12, 2013 in the area of Cantrell Ave., Mason St., Gratten St., Liberty St., Water St., and Campbell St. in the City of Harrisonburg.

The suspect has been described as a white male, in his 50's, wearing a grey cap, a brown or black jacket, and dark colored jeans. Subject may have a tattoo of numbers on his neck.

Legitimate Law Enforcement Officers should be able to display a badge and credentials that will identify them and the agency they work for. If you encounter this individual or if there is any doubt about individuals at your door, you may contact the Harrisonburg Rockingham Emergency Communications Center by dialing 911 or 540.434.4436 or the James Madison University Police Department's Emergency Communications Center at 540.568.6911 and giving them your address to confirm if they have police officers at your location. Report any suspicious activity you may observe immediately to Law Enforcement.

Anyone with information on this incident should contact Crime Solvers at 540.574.5050, or text “HPD,” plus the tip to 274637 (Crimes).

James Madison University Police can be contacted by telephone at 540.568.6911; in person at the Public Safety Office in Anthony Seeger Hall, located at the intersection of West Grace and South Main Streets; or by e-mail to publicsafety@jmu.edu.

JMU and the City of Harrisonburg want to encourage everyone in the Community to exercise good crime prevention strategies all the time and to make these good daily habits. Close and lock all exterior doors and windows at night and anytime the area is left unattended whether it be for 5 minutes or 5 days to go to class, go to the store, visit a friend or leave town for the holiday. Be particularly cautious about leaving ground level doors and windows unsecured and even individual room and office doors in complexes where multiple occupants have access to common areas inside the perimeter of the residential, administrative and academic facilities. This warning also extends to vehicles.

The poster version of this message suitable for posting on bulletin boards in your area will be available in PDF at: http://www.jmu.edu/pubsafety/IncidentListings.shtml.

Thank You and Stay Safe!