

PRESS RELEASE

On Wednesday May 5th, Beverly Police arrested two door-to-door magazine solicitors who were conducting business without the proper city solicitation permits. It is believed that this group of solicitors, all from out of state, is running a scam where a resident agrees to subscribe to a particular magazine, pays in cash, and then never receives the magazine(s). Leonardi Ekani-Minfumou, DOB 6/5/85 and Shawn Permero Jackson, DOB 3/16/81, both from Georgia, were arrested in the area of Essex Street. The men are part of a larger ring of door-to-door magazine solicitors who dress neat, wearing a shirt and tie, and carrying small black leather cases containing certificates of training, vague magazine subscription forms and “feed-back” forms where residents can rate their solicitor on their politeness and general customer service skills. The men are all from out of state with some having very lengthy criminal backgrounds, including Shawn Jackson. The group will target various neighborhoods across the state, then return to a Boston area hotel at night. They generally work in groups of two or more and show paperwork stating they work for companies titled Midwest Clearing Inc, “Strickly” Business or Urban 1. An internet search of these companies brings up numerous complaints from persons claiming to be scammed out of money from a door-to-door magazine solicitor. Residents are urged to use caution when dealing with any door-to-door solicitors and should ask to see proper city issued permits. If the solicitor refuses or states they don’t have the permit with them, residents are encouraged to call police and report the incident. If the resident is shown solicitor permit paperwork, but they still feel uneasy or suspicious about the salesperson, they are encouraged to call police immediately.