

FAKE COP ROBS DETROIT WOMAN AT GUNPOINT

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Wednesday, December 31, 2008

Author: TAMMY STABLES BATTAGLIA, Free Press staff writer

After a police impersonator made his way into a west side **woman** 's home and robbed her **at gunpoint** , the Detroit Police Department is advising residents to be wary if an officer comes to their home.

Before opening the door, ask to see photo identification and get a badge number. Then, residents could call a neighbor to look outside to make sure the person is actually driving a police car. Or residents can verify that the visit is legitimate by calling in the badge number to the nearest district office: Northwest District **at** 313-596-5600; Southwest District **at** 313-596-5300; Western District **at** 313-596-1200; Eastern District **at** 313-596-5900; Northeast District **at** 313-596-1100, or Central District **at** 313-596-1300.

Tuesday's police impersonator knocked on the **woman** 's door in the 13500 block of Birwood, near I-96 and Grand River, **at** 1:30 p.m., police said. The man, described as in his 30s, about 6 foot 1 inch tall and 230 pounds with a muscular build and a black and gray mustache, claimed he and his partner had arrested a man trying to steal her car. Holding an envelope, he asked to come in to show her a picture of the suspect. But then he pulled out a gun and robbed her of cash once she allowed him in her home.

The man had what appeared to be a police badge on a chain hanging around his neck and was wearing all black clothing, police said.

Anyone with information about the police impersonator and robbery is asked to contact the Detroit Police Southwest Investigation Firearm Team **at** 596-5345 or Crime Stoppers **at** 1-800-SPEAK-UP.

MEMO: THIS ARTICLE APPEARED ONLY ONLINE **AT** www.freep.com

DISCLAIMER: THIS ELECTRONIC VERSION MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY FROM THE PRINTED ARTICLE

Edition: WEB EDITION

Section: NWS; NEWS

Record Number: dfp0000664905

Copyright (c) Detroit Free Press. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.