

City of Vacaville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Contact: Jim Thompson, (707) 449-5465

FIRE DEPT. WARNING RESIDENTS OF POSSIBLE FAKE INSPECTIONS

The Vacaville Fire Department is alerting business owners and residents to a group of individuals performing so-called “inspections” and then charging a large fee for the service.

According to witnesses, an individual walks into a business, states they are there to perform a fire/life safety inspection, looks around the business and then leaves a bill for the owner of the business.

In some cases, the bills have been as high as \$495.

The individuals state they are from a business called National Fire and Safety Inspection Company. They do carry a disclaimer that states they are not affiliated with any police or fire department, which they ask the business owner to sign. They also leave a phone number, which when called goes to an answering machine.

These individuals are currently working in Southern California as well and are working their way up the state. They apparently are preying on small business owners, in particular restaurants and those they perceive to be less than proficient in English.

Just a reminder for the public, when members of the Vacaville Fire Department perform fire and life safety inspections, there is no initial fee and they will be in uniform. Business owners are not obligated to pay any private entity for inspections they, the business owners did not solicit for.

If you are approached by these individuals, please call the Vacaville Fire Department at 449-5452 or the Vacaville Police Department at 449-5200.

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