



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Package Thieves

SEAGOVILLE, TX- With the Christmas Season upon us and the usual spike of parcel service deliveries that follow, there will be an equitable increase in theft activity. Unfortunately, those packages resting on your doorstep/porch area are irresistible to thieves. They WILL take them. And, they will do so right under the noses of even the nosiest of neighbors (and we need you guys!). These thieves will likely not raise an eyebrow. How, you ask? These suspects don't look the part and, often, they don't cause suspicion or alarm. They don't even appear out of place. And they will simply walk off with thousands of dollars of Christmas gift merchandise this year, most likely never to be caught.

The News media has aired some cautionary segments on this criminal activity already this year. Here is one clever scheme we have seen locally: *A Family Affair* – A car pulls into the driveway of the target residence (packages are either visible on the porch, OR the UPS/FedEx driver has just pulled away). A child, or young adult, will jump out of the car with a box in their hands and walk up to the front porch. As soon as the child reaches the front, they place the box (empty, of course) on the doormat area and then a woman or man exits the car and comes up to help the child remove the packages from the front porch and place them into their car. They drive away – none the wiser of what occurred.

With the proliferation of surveillance and "doorbell" cameras in use today, we will surely be receiving and reviewing footage of this criminal activity in an attempt to identify and hold accountable those involved.

This IS happening and it's happening here in Seagoville. What can you do about it? As difficult as it may be, try not to have packages delivered to an address where no one will likely be there to accept them. Or, you can try creating a place by your door where packages can be hidden from 'street view' – hidden from those driving around trying to spot for your unguarded stuff. Maybe have packages delivered to a neighbor or have a neighbor watch for the deliveries.

None of this is your fault. We have to face the fact that these are the times we live in and we should take proactive steps to avoid being a victim. **REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY!**