



**SHERRI BEVAN WALSH**  
**Prosecuting Attorney**  
County of Summit

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**-ALERT-**  
**Alarm System Scam**

I recently learned of a home security system scam that you need to know about. This scam works by someone coming to your door claiming to be from your alarm system company. They look official with a badge and an iPad. The scammer will say they were sent to replace the batteries in your alarm system control panel. Once inside, they will urge you to let them replace the control panel stating it is outdated.

This scam is dangerous for three reasons: 1) the new control panel can have a remote allowing them to turn off your alarm whenever they want; 2) the scammer can take inventory of valuables in your house while they are changing the battery; and 3) if you let them change your control panel they can ask you to sign a receipt. This receipt can have fine legal print stating you will pay a higher rate with a new company and that you have a five year non-cancelable contract.

Please review the following tips to stay safe:

- Be leery of anyone who comes to your door for any unscheduled service call
- Never let anyone into your house without verification
- Don't assume a badge and iPad makes someone legitimate
- Call your alarm system company to verify that they sent this individual
  - Don't use a number supplied by the visitor as you may be calling an accomplice
- Trust your instincts

Report scams to [www.FTC.gov/complaint](http://www.FTC.gov/complaint).

For information on crime safety, like us at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/SummitCountyProsecutorOffice/>

Stay Safe,

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