

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 5, 2014



**Contact:**

Diana L. Klink  
757.514.4104  
757.359.1845

Tim Kelley  
757.514.4103  
757.871.3039

### **SUFFOLK POLICE INVESTIGATE GRAVEL SCAM - SUSPECT WANTED IN CONNECTION**

SUFFOLK, VA (March 5, 2014) - The Suffolk Police Department is asking for the public's assistance in locating a wanted subject in connection with a scam that resulted in a financial loss of thousands. The request for assistance comes in reference to an ongoing fraud investigation.

Frank Small, 47, of Suffolk, is wanted on the charges of robbery and conspiracy to commit a felony.

Information was received by the Suffolk Police that subjects, including Frank Small, have been approaching residences and providing unsolicited estimates for the delivery of small amounts of gravel "left over from a recent job in the area". Their targets are citizens with dirt or gravel driveways in need of repair. Once the citizen agrees to the receipt of the excess gravel, a much larger amount of gravel is delivered and a substantially higher amount of money is demanded.

It is believed through the investigation that these subjects have also approached several citizens who have denied the services. Authorities are asking those citizens who have experienced this scenario, or may have information regarding these subjects, to contact the Suffolk Police Department.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Line at 1-888-Lock-U-Up. When calling Crime Line, callers do not have to give their names or appear in court. Citizens can also utilize TipSoft to anonymously submit crime-related tips through the Web, a text message, or from any Android or iPhone mobile device with the [TipSubmit mobile app](#). Tips can be submitted by visiting [www.tipsubmit.com](http://www.tipsubmit.com), or by texting the word “**CRIMES**” (274637) with the keyword **SPDVATIP**. TipSoft also supports users’ ability to submit videos or photos using the TipSoft mobile app. If information leads to an arrest, the caller or “tipster” could qualify for a reward of up to \$1,000.

Detective J. Lurie is the lead investigator and can be reached at 514-7933.

###