Campus Police and Security Services
Division of Crime Prevention

Campus Community Advisory
August 26, 2015

Campus Police are investigating reports of a solicitor approaching students and begging for money to care for a sick child and other family tragedies. He is known to first beg for a ride off campus and during this time begins his hardship story leading up to asking for large amounts of cash. Victims have been reported at Notre Dame College, CSU and Tri-C.

The person of interest is pictured below. If seen on campus, he should be reported to campus police immediately. Do not approach the person but take note of where they were seen, what direction they were going and what clothing they were wearing, this information will be very helpful when reporting to the police. He is described as an African American male approximately 48 years of age.

Safety should always be your main concern. Do not go into wallets, pockets or purse in front of panhandlers and do not give them money. Panhandling can quickly turn into a robbery if you display your valuables. Acknowledge a panhandler with a nod, and answer the request for money by saying “no” and walk away. Walk purposefully and with confidence, be aware of your surroundings and what is going on around you. While in a vehicle, do not roll down your window or engage in conversation with those standing on the side of the road panhandling. Under no circumstances should you provide a stranger with a ride in your vehicle.

Some of the Ploys panhandlers’ use:
1. My wife is sick (or pregnant) and I need money for…
2. I’m out of gas, can you spare some change…
3. I need money for an important phone call…
4. I’m caring for a sick child and need money for medical treatment…

Anyone who feels threatened, annoyed, or intimidated should call the police as soon as possible.