



— Police —
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Van Drivers' Actions Suspicious

Coeur d'Alene Police issued a caution bulletin Wednesday regarding a suspicious male in a blue van who reportedly had attempted to entice children into the vehicle.

A review of reports in Spokane County resulted in two similar incidents here, each involving a white male driver. The van descriptions differ, however.

On June 25th, a 10-year-old boy was walking to his home in the 2800 block of South Man O' War Lane when a man with gray hair pulled his older white full-sized van alongside and asked him if he had any dog treats. The boy's mother felt the suspect was attempting to lure her son into the vehicle, but the boy did not respond.

On October 4th, a 14-year-old female was walking in the area of Sprague and Pines when a man pulled up alongside her in a white Dodge Caravan and asked her to get in. She refused and the suspect persisted. The girl finally ran into a nearby business to get away.

That suspect was described as a tanned, blond-haired, 18-to-25-year-old. His van had Washington license plates.

While these incidents may or may not be related to those described in the Coeur d'Alene Police bulletin, they illustrate the need for parents to discuss the potential for their children to be targets of child luring or enticement.

Children should be made aware of the risks of conversing with or accepting rides from strangers, and should be educated about methods of escape and places of safety should such an incident occur.

Children who walk in pairs or groups are less likely to be targeted, and should stick to well-lighted and populated streets and sidewalks.

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