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An elderly lady called our 9-1-1 communications center early one morning advising that there were some people trespassing on her property. While en-route, I checked the call history and saw that there were several previous calls for service for various things. The trespassers had already left prior to my arrival. I arrived and began listening to her tell me things about the incident. She was upset that these people, whom she knew, were coming into her house and damaging some of her personal property. She believed the trespassers were pulling the embroidery out of an upholstered chair; taking scissors and cutting the heels out of her socks; and removing a plastic dress bag from its hanger in her closet. There was no damage to her chair; the dress bag was still on its hanger; and the holes in her socks appeared to have been caused by wear. After listening to her, I explained some options to her about criminal charges and restraining orders. She requested that I write those options on a piece of paper for her. She advised me that she didn't drive, but that she had relatives a few doors down from her that would assist her in pursuing one of the options.

After talking with her I felt that this lady may benefit from the assistance of a mental health professional. I wanted to review the notes in the previous call history to ensure that I had as much information as possible prior to contacting the Mobile Crisis Unit. The previous calls at this residence were trespassing, breaking and entering, and damage to property. In the CAD notes for these calls, the responding officers were unable to substantiate the reported problem. I contacted the Mobile Crisis Unit and provided the clinician with all the information that I had. The clinician was very interested and told me that she would contact this lady. About an hour later, the clinician contacted me and said that she would be making a site visit because there were indications that this lady was suffering from some mental illness.

David Kale, Deputy
Union County Sheriff's Office