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NANCY GUTHRIE

Nancy Guthrie's neighbors flag camera glitching as experts explain Wi-Fi jamming

Investigators are reportedly asking about internet outages the morning Nancy Guthrie was taken from her Tucson home

By **Michael Ruiz** · Fox News

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A move like that would add a layer of sophistication for the masked suspect who appeared on 84-year-old [Nancy Guthrie's](#) front steps carrying a Walmart backpack and oddly placed holster.

"It shows an astounding amount of planning if they were used," said Joshua Ritter, a Los Angeles defense attorney and Fox News contributor.

Neighbors told Savannah's network, NBC, that a team of investigators sweeping the neighborhood Thursday asked specifically about internet outages.

**[NANCY GUTHRIE NEIGHBORS' RING CAMERA CAPTURES VEHICLES ON POSSIBLE ROUTE
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Savannah Guthrie and mother Nancy Guthrie (Courtesy of NBC)

According to [NBC News](#), a couple who live adjacent to Guthrie's home said they have four cameras on their property, noting the one closest to the missing 84-year-old's home was "not available" during the overnight hours of Feb. 1 when she disappeared.

The neighbor said it seemed "uncanny" that the security video wasn't available during that timeframe.

"That's really weird, isn't it?" the neighbor said.

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This split image shows two views of the same utility box around the corner from Nancy Guthrie's home in the Catalina Foothills of Tucson on Saturday, March 7, 2026. The Pima County Sheriff's Department said it is aware of the open box and was looking into it as part of the investigation into the 84-year-old's suspected abduction. (Michael Ruiz/Fox News Digital)

That prompted speculation about the so-called [Wi-Fi jammers](#), which are illegal in the United States under Federal Communications Commission guidelines.

They're not particularly high-tech. And they can be obtained online, which is potentially something investigators could track.

A Pima County Sheriff's Department spokesperson also told Fox News Digital that investigators were aware of a damaged utility box around the corner from her home and looking into it as part of the investigation.

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DID NANCY GUTHRIE'S ABDUCTOR RETURN TO THE CRIME SCENE?



A Wi-Fi jammer used in an alleged residential burglary in February 2025. (West University Place Police)

"If they were using Wi-Fi jammers, then I would expect that we would not be able to see any video from the front door cameras," said Morgan Wright, the CEO and founder of the National Center for Open and Unsolved Cases. "I took a look at some of the videos with the other gangs that use

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"The router won't see the jammer as a device," he told Fox News Digital. "It's not attempting to connect. ... All an RF (radio frequency) jammer does is flood a frequency band with noise so legitimate signals cannot be decoded."

FOX NEWS TRUE CRIME NEWSLETTER: NEW NANCY GUTHRIE VIDEO, CALEB FLYNN'S CHARGES, MISSING MOM ARRESTED



These two images were released by the FBI, recovered from Nancy Guthrie's Nest doorbell camera. It's unclear whether they show the same person. (FBI)

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"Whether investigators could detect a jammer, the answer is almost certainly no," Wright said. "It operates at the radio layer. The router records events at the network layer."

Jammers function by spamming the airwaves on the same frequencies as Wi-Fi devices, interrupting their connections to the internet.

DNA IS STILL PENDING AS VOLUNTEERS FIND ANOTHER GLOVE IN THE SEARCH FOR NANCY GUTHRIE



Annie Guthrie, her husband Tommaso Cioni and Savannah Guthrie at their missing mother Nancy Guthrie's home March 2 in Tucson, Ariz. (Fox News)

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landline phone while surfing the internet. People who live in densely populated apartment buildings can also face interference from their neighbors. More advanced routers are more resilient to conflicting signals.

Commercial jammers have a range of about 10 to 30 yards, Wright said, and they get more effective the closer they are to the victim's router. From a distance, they can cause lag and glitching but might not black out a camera's signal entirely.

While devices used by the military and the U.S. Secret Service have a much greater range, they're larger and use more power.

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Members of the media work outside the home of Nancy Guthrie, the missing mother of "Today" show host Savannah Guthrie, Feb. 5, 2026, in Tucson, Ariz. (AP Photo/Caitlin O'Hara)

For that reason, he said it's unlikely that neighbors saw an impact from a jamming device deployed at Guthrie's home.

"If they say, 'Well, I had an internet outage,' it's got nothing to do with an RF jammer," he said of the neighbors. "That RF jammer would have to be high-powered, military-style stuff to affect a neighbor."

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Wi-Fi jammers have no effect on wired security cameras or alarm systems. Some wireless cameras can store video locally and upload once an interrupted connection is restored. It

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Brightened versions of photos released by the FBI show a "subject" on Nancy Guthrie's property. (Provided by FBI)

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"We all know the South American theft groups have been using them in burglaries across the country," said Lisa Miller, a retired detective and law enforcement executive at the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

"I find it to be a plausible theory but not as likely," she told Fox News Digital. "Here's why. The

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Savannah Guthrie visits the "Today" show at Rockefeller Plaza in New York Thursday, March 5, 2026. (Charles Sykes/Invision/AP)

The apparent antenna seen in the suspect's pocket on that [Nest video could](#) more likely be part of a handheld radio, she said.

"I think it's smarter to use that than a burner phone," she said. "The criminals know what the FBI ... can do. Of course, I'm opining based on experience, and it fits my theory that porch monster had an accomplice."

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Other experts are also skeptical based on the added level of sophistication a jammer would bring.

"If they were forward-thinking enough to purchase and use one of those jammers, I think they would have done better than what we saw at the front door," said Betsy Brantner Smith, a [retired police sergeant](#) and spokesperson for the National Police Association. "It is definitely a possibility, but that would require so much advanced thought and action. That brings us back to someone who knew her and very specifically targeted her."

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On the other hand, if the suspect knew her well enough, they might have known she didn't have a cloud subscription for the cameras she did have.

The Pima County Sheriff's Department declined to comment on any potential internet outage in Guthrie's neighborhood at the time of her abduction.

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