



STANLEY SNIFF

SHERIFF

Press Releases

SHERIFF-CORONER, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA

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PRESS RELEASE:	COUNTERFEIT CHECK CASHING SCAM		
Agency:	Sheriff's Administration		
Station Area:	Riverside County		
Written Date:	June 2, 2015	Time:	/ 8:00 A.M.
Incident Date:	Recurring	Time:	
Incident Location:	Throughout Riverside County		
Reporting Officer:	Deputy Albert Martinez – Public Information Officer		

Details:

Check scammers trick victims by mailing counterfeit checks in the victim's name, claiming that they overpaid for some service or purchase. The scammers then request that the overpaid money can be returned by way of a money order or cash.

How the Scam Works

The scammer offers to buy an item for several hundred dollars (or more), but use a counterfeit check. Once the check is delivered, the check scammer claims they mistakenly overpaid the agreed-upon amount. The scammer then simply requests the recipient/victim cash or deposit the check and return the difference of overpayment via a money order or cash. When the check is processed, the victim receives a call or email from the bank, informing the victim that the counterfeit check deposited did not clear, causing the account to become overdrawn.

Tips to Avoid Fake Check Scams

Here are tips to avoid check scams:

- Confirm before you withdraw cash:**
A check can take several days to clear, and, until then, you are responsible for any funds withdrawn against it. To make sure the check cleared, call your bank.
- Be wary of checks received from unknown individuals:**
When selling to someone you don't know, it is safer to accept PayPal, cash or credit card payments.
- Do not accept overpayments:**
When selling on [Craigslist.org](#) or similar sites, don't take more than the sales price, no matter what convincing story the buyer tells you.
- Check your online bank statements frequently.**
Don't wait for monthly statements. If you see something you don't recognize, call your financial institution immediately.

For More Information

Read more about check scams and banking apps on [National Consumers League's Fraud.org](#). To find out more about other scams, check out [BBB Scam Stopper](#).

Tips for avoiding other common fraud schemes can be located on the following Federal Bureau of Investigation website: www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud



We Are Hiring!

Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Trainee, Correctional Deputy, Sheriff's 911 Communications Officer, and other support positions.



Apply at www.joinrsd.org or call 1-888-Join-RSD

Crime Links

- Child Abuse & Neglect
- CrimeReports Database
- Don't be a Victim
- Elder Abuse Resources
- Fraud Schemes
- Identity Theft - What to Do
- Juvenile Crimes
- Mail Theft
- Marijuana Cultivation
- Report a Property Crime
- Who to Call

Sheriff's Crime Tip Lines

- Crime Tips
- Homicide Tip Line
- Property Crime Report

CrimeReports
Searchable database of crimes reported by Riverside County law agencies

CRIME TIPS
Riverside Sheriff Crime Tip Form

Riverside Sheriff's Stations
- Station Lookup -

Law Enforcement Agencies
- Agency Lookup -

If you have any questions or if you are a victim of a fraud, please contact your local law enforcement office.

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- The Riverside County Sheriff's Department is seeking applicants for Deputy Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff Trainee, Correctional Deputy, Sheriff's 911 Communications Officer, and other employment opportunities such as clerical and support positions. If you are interested in a career with us, please apply at www.joinrsd.org or call 1-888-Join-RSD.



Non-Emergency Numbers

All 9-1-1 and non-emergency numbers support TTY communications.



Toll Free:	800-950-2444
West:	951-776-1099
Central:	951-776-1099
East - Coachella:	760-836-3215
East - Blythe:	760-921-7900
Moreno Valley:	951-247-8700
Temecula:	951-696-4357

Emergency - Dial 911