



Snohomish County Sheriff's Office

Gold Bar Region

March 31, 2014

The Snohomish Police Department and Snohomish County Sheriff's Office have received complaints this past week regarding counterfeit currency in the community. At this time we do not have any suspect information but we would caution business owners and private citizens to be extra cautious when taking currency.

The suspect or suspects are passing counterfeit \$10, \$20 and \$100 dollar bills to unsuspecting individuals. This type of activity has been seen around the county in the past but now we are seeing this within our community. Here is some information we can share with everyone in an effort to prevent this type of crime from happening in the future.

Be alert for counterfeit money. If it looks suspicious, compare it to a genuine bill. Pay attention to the feel of the paper and details in the printing. All genuine bills have tiny red and blue fibers embedded in the paper; counterfeiters sometimes try to reproduce these by printing them on the paper. Examine the serial numbers to make sure that they all match and are evenly spaced. Look for a security thread running from top to bottom.

Keep a counterfeit detection pen near your cash register. These inexpensive pens contain an iodine solution that creates a black mark on counterfeit bills. When applied to a genuine bill, no discoloration occurs.

For more information on how to detect counterfeit money, and what to do if you receive a counterfeit, visit www.secretservice.gov/know_your_money.shtml.