

# TENANT ALERT

## Counterfeit Bill Preparedness

June 6, 2023

Hello Market Businesses,

We've been made aware of reports from nearby businesses concerning counterfeit bill use. In anticipation of any further activity, we've prepared resources for you and your staff to be prepared with the knowledge to identify invalid currency. Please review these guidelines to help take the necessary steps to protect your business.

### Detecting Counterfeit Bills

With reports of attempted passing of counterfeit bills, we recommend training all staff to carefully and adequately check bills for potential counterfeit. This link provides excellent information for identifying the key security features of each type of bill – <https://www.uscurrency.gov/educational-materials/training-course/security>

### Common Fraudulent Practices

- Counterfeit scams often target peak hours to more easily deceive businesses in a transaction.
- Labels on counterfeit bills can state "Motion Picture Money", "Copy Money", or "This note is not legal tender" in the fine print. Bills like these are easily accessible on major retailer sites.
- Typically a larger counterfeit bill in \$20 increments or higher is used to purchase a low value item in order to receive valid bills in exchange.



### Quick Tips

- Assess smaller denomination notes equally to larger ones.
- The feel of the bill is often easiest to detect, so for vendors who wear gloves, keep a UV light or tester pen on hand to more easily reveal the security features in bills.
- Look for portrait watermarks when the bill is held up in the light.
- Tilt the note to look for color-shifting ink on the number in the lower right-hand corner.
- **There are multiple product options, but our Security Team recommends the following: Sure N Fast Counterfeit Buster Pen to test valid ink, and the Royal Sovereign UV Detector that offers easy visual guides to identify counterfeit bills.**

### Response Protocol

1. If a counterfeit bill is spotted and the offender is still present, call Market Security immediately at the number below and do not return the bill. It's a crime to attempt fraudulent payment, and we want to intervene when possible to halt offenders from negatively impacting other businesses.
2. If a bill is discovered counterfeit and the person leaves, try to handle the bill as little as possible and place it aside in an envelope or bag.
3. **Note the description of the person, denomination of the bill, and time it was used, then call 911.**

For more information on best practices, review this article: [How to Spot Counterfeit Money](#)

Questions? Contact Market Security at (206) 330-6609