

Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Contact: Shannon Martin | (386) 281-9733 | martin@flaglersheriff.com

Flagler County Sees a Rise in Counterfeit Bills

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office has seen an increase in reported counterfeit currency use. Since December 19, there have been several reported incidents of counterfeit currency being used to purchase items from small businesses as well as person-to-person sales on sites like Craigslist.com. Two incidents have involved counterfeit bills with markings that read "Replica" and "Motion Picture Use Only."



Counterfeit \$100 dollar bill marked with "REPLICA" and "TO BE USED FOR MOTION PICTURES."

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office is currently investigating these cases and notifying the community to be mindful of the use of counterfeit currency within Flagler County. Before accepting payment, currency should be checked for authenticity. Each United States currency bill has several security features to verify authenticity. Become familiar with these features and ensure the currency is real before accepting it as payment.

Visit <u>www.uscurrency.gov</u> for detailed information on security features found on United States Currency. Counterfeit detector pens are another form of protection available at many office supply stores.

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"If you are presented with counterfeit currency, avoid confrontation and call us," advised Sheriff Rick Staly. "Any physical descriptions or vehicle descriptions of the suspect are helpful, as is surveillance footage or photos you may take. As a witness, you are a great resource to a responding deputy and you could play a vital role in getting these counterfeiters off the street and into the Green Roof Inn."

When inspecting currency:

- Use a counterfeit detector pen before handing over merchandise.
- Check currency security features to ensure authenticity.
- Do not complete a sale without first confirming currency authenticity.

If you have information regarding the use of counterfeit bills in Flagler County, contact the Sheriff's Office at 386-313-4911. To remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-888-277-TIPS. You could be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000.00.

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