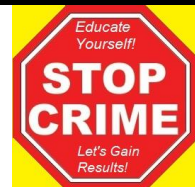


## **Business Safety Procedures for Dealing with Counterfeit Money & Catching Criminals**



Criminals are passing fake bills in Chicago. Our Association wants to protect businesses and their employees. Here are possible business procedures to deal with this issue, developed in conjunction with law enforcement officials. For more information, contact FMA Executive Director Roger Romanelli: [roger@fultonmarketchicago.org](mailto:roger@fultonmarketchicago.org) or (773) 531-6370.

### ***How to Detect Counterfeit Money – More Information on FMA Website***

Feel Paper: Should be slightly rough

Hold Up to Light: Verify for watermark portrait matching bill portrait, verify security strips inside bills (Install small light at cash register)

Counterfeit Detector Pen: 3 for \$10, but not the most reliable detector

Use Ultraviolet Counterfeit Detection Scanner: About \$30, highly recommended

Look for Ink Smudges

Know Your U.S. Bills: Use Secret Service's "Know Your Money" charts

Check Serial Numbers: If multiple bills are presented and numbers are same or sequential, these could be fake bills.

### ***Reacting to A Fake Bill - Set Your Policy, Train Employees & Collaborate with Police***

Employee safety is paramount. Train employees on their options and empower them to do what feels safe.

Install in-store and outside-store cameras and recording devices to capturing suspect details/suspect's vehicle details. Save video and audio recordings before deleted, then give recordings to police. Install in-store panic button at cash register. If you don't have cameras, memorize/write down maximum details about suspect/suspect's vehicle.

If you determine that this is a deliberate counterfeit effort or anything is suspicious, call 911 Chicago Police Emergency. Pushing countertop panic button is not recommended, but remains an option to employees.

Option 1: Give fake bill back, state that it is fake, and give customer another option to pay (e.g. credit card.)

Option 2: Use detector pen on bill in front of customer, indicate suspicion, ask customer for I.D. and write down I.D. number.

Option 3: Receive fake bill (perhaps \$20 or less), give change, and hold fake bill as evidence for the police. If you receive a fake bill, limit the number of persons handling it until police arrive.

Option 4: Hold fake bill and stall for time until police arrive. You could also ask suspect for I.D. and make a color copy.

### ***Community Notification***

When you experience anything suspicious or any crime, notify Fulton Market Association. If it is urgent, we will send an immediate community alert. We will also help you and our community work with the police.

*For more information, contact the Chicago Police Department Financial Crimes Unit (312) 746-9661, the 12th District Chicago Police Department (312) 746-8396 or Fulton Market Association via [www.fultonmarketchicago.org](http://www.fultonmarketchicago.org).*