

Counterfeit Checks Rise with COVID-19 "Work at Home" Scams

Counterfeit Check Warning Signs

Fake check red flags to help protect you from becoming a victim of fraud:

- Non-existent or faded credit union or bank logo.
- No address, invalid address, or just a PO Box.
- No check number in the top, right corner.
- Thin, flimsy, or low quality paper.
- Spelling or typing errors in any of the printed areas.
- Mismatching of written and spelled out check amounts.
- Areas where things appear to have been added or erased from the check.

Check Scam Prevention Tips

Check scams can occur when you sell something online, accept a work from home job, or apply for a loan online. Warning signs to help keep you from becoming a victim of one of these scams:

- Messages containing poor grammar and spelling.
- A sense of urgency is communicated.
- The buyer of an online sale does one or more of the following:
 - $_{\odot}$ Says they wish to purchase the item on behalf of a client.
 - Says they want a shipping agent to pick up the purchase and request a home address.
 - Sends payment as a cashier's check or money order for an amount more than the listed price, asking that the remainder be wired back to them.
- Offers from unknown individuals or organizations that seem too good to be true.
- Learn more about <u>How to Spot & & Report Fake Check Scams</u>

Report any fraud suspicions to PriorityONE at 954-335-5100, Option 2, so we can quickly act on any potential threat.