

BEWARE...

FAKE CHECK/GIFT CARD SCAMS

Fake Check and Gift-card scams take on many forms:

- You receive a check in the mail as payment for an item that you have posted for sale. The sender instructs you to cash the check for your item and send a portion of the money back to them.
- Someone approaches you and asks that you deposit or cash a check for them. You are promised money for your assistance.
- You are “hired” by a company to work from home/online. You are sent a packet of paperwork and a check to deposit for your “payment, startup costs or expenses”. You are asked to deposit the check and send a portion of the money somewhere else.
- You receive a call from someone identifying themselves as a member of Law Enforcement, IRS or an Attorney. They inform you that there is some sort of legal issue with you or a family member. They request you send money or obtain gift-cards to stop you or your family from getting into trouble.

These are just a few examples of the scams that scammers use to defraud you of your money. After you cash or deposit the check or money order, you later learn the check was a counterfeit. This is usually found out after you have sent the money to the scammer.

- Once the counterfeit is discovered, you will be held responsible for paying back the money to the bank or check cashing company.



Did someone approach you asking you to cash a check for them?

Did they give you a reason why they need you to cash or deposit the check for them?

Did they promise you that the check was real?

Did they offer you quick cash for your troubles?

QUESTIONS? CALL

**ALLENTOWN POLICE
DEPT**

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