CRIME ALERT

July 20, 2012

Increase in Counterfeit Currency at UCSF

On July 16, 2012, counterfeit currency was passed at the Moffitt Café. The UCSF Police Department and retail services on campus have observed a rise in the number of counterfeit currency incidents. UCSF PD requests that employees, staff and students conducting cash transactions be watchful for counterfeit bills. The U.S. Secret Service gives the following recommendations to the public on how to identify counterfeit currency:

• The genuine portrait appears lifelike and stands out distinctly from the background. The counterfeit portrait is usually lifeless and flat. Details merge into the background which is often too dark or mottled.
• On a genuine bill, the saw-tooth points of the Federal Reserve and Treasury seals are clear, distinct, and sharp. The counterfeit seals may have uneven, blunt, or broken saw-tooth points.
• The fine lines in the border of a genuine bill are clear and unbroken. On the counterfeit, the lines in the outer margin and scrollwork may be blurred and indistinct.
• Genuine serial numbers have a distinctive style and are evenly spaced. The serial numbers are printed in the same ink color as the Treasury Seal. On a counterfeit, the serial numbers may differ in color or shade of ink from the Treasury seal. The numbers may not be uniformly spaced or aligned.
• Genuine currency paper has tiny red and blue fibers embedded throughout. Often counterfeiters try to simulate these fibers by printing tiny red and blue lines on their paper. Close inspection reveals, however, that on the counterfeit note the lines are printed on the surface, not embedded in the paper. It is illegal to reproduce the distinctive paper used in the manufacturing of United States currency.

For more information go to: http://www.secretservice.gov/know_your_money.shtml

Employees, staff, and students are asked to report any suspicious persons or circumstances to UCSF PD immediately and to dial 9-911 in the case of an emergency.

Help fight crime by reporting suspicious activity to UCSF PD immediately. For emergency or in-progress events, dial 9-911 when using on-campus land lines and 415/476-6911 when using cell phones. For non-emergency calls, please dial 415/476-1414.

7-12-05CP

Together for a Safe and Crime Free Campus

Pamela E. Roskowski
Chief of Police

This alert is a public service to the University community and in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Act of 1998