



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS  
PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

MARCY  
ERIC

July 26, 2007

To All Employees:

DO NOT write checks at any Wal-Mart. There is a multi-city fraud and theft ring currently operating in Wal-Mart involving numerous employees. When you pay by check the clerk takes a picture of your check using the camera on their cell phone. This information is then downloaded, fraudulent checks made from your account, and then "let the fun begin" for the thieves. One individual that this was done to had two checks totaling over \$4000.00 posted against their checking account.

Some of you are thinking "well there is no way this will affect me because I don't keep that kind of money in my account." WRONG!!!! As stated, this involves numerous employees. The picture is taken and after the data is downloaded the checks are printed. Later, this fake check is given to same or another cashier. The cashier DOES NOT run the check through the check fax inquiry to verify the funds. The check is placed in the drawer for deposit and no one is the wiser until some days later when the check hits your account. One of the main things being purchased by the fraudulent checks are gift cards. How nice. With a gift card from Wal-Mart, any member of the theft ring can purchase items from any Wal-Mart or Sam's Club in the nation. No identification is required to purchase with a gift card, so Sally or Sam in Shreveport can be buying that fabulous plasma TV they have always wanted with the gift card bought by a fraudulent check drawn on YOUR account and no one is any the wiser until you get your bank statement or you begin to get NSF notices in the mail.

This activity has become so widespread and so numerous have been the occurrences that not only is local law enforcement authorities involved in the case, i.e. City, Sheriff, and LSP, but the FBI and the Secret Service is now investigating as well.

So, you have been warned. Protect yourself and your money. It's 2007 and the criminals only seem to get smarter.

Spb/Rjp

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