

Woodlake Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

The publication of this newsletter is unofficial and does not reflect any opinion, directive, or policy of the Woodlake Property Owners Association members or Board of Directors.

The primary purpose of the newsletter is to convey information designed to assist us to reduce or prevent crime in our community.

The information presented is available through various public access sources, personal interview, or observation. Your comments as to how we can improve this effort are welcome.

1. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted as of May 1st, 2014 -[http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd\(adult_probation\)/most_wanted.php](http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd(adult_probation)/most_wanted.php), and/or; <http://bellcountycrimestoppers.com/>;

Torey Banks, 34, is a 5'6" B/M, weighing 250 lbs, from Killeen, is wanted for Possession with Intent To Deliver CS. Also from Killeen are: Ayana Johnson, 22, is a 5'5", 150 lbs B/F wanted for Assault on a Public Servant and Lisa Kay, 23 y/o, 130 lbs B/F, wanted for Theft Over \$50.00 But Less Than \$1,500.00; and Terrance Kendrick, 27, B/M who is 5'11" tall weighing 173 lbs, wanted for Burglary of a Habitation.

From Temple are: Christian Stewart is a 22 y/o W/M that is 6'3" tall, weighing 180 lbs. with BRO eyes and BRO hair who is wanted for Burglary of a Habitation and Larry Head, 28 y/o, 5'9", 150 lbs, B/M wanted for Evading Arrest with a Motor Vehicle.

Please review the attached flyer; if you have any information regarding those individuals; Call the Bell County Sheriff's Office at 254-933-5400, your local law enforcement, or CRIMESTOPPERS AT 1-800-729-TIPS (Local 526-TIPS) There is now an "on-line" crime reporting system for your convenience at: http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/citizen_online_reporting_system/index.php

From Austin — A reward has been bumped-up to \$20,000 for information leading the arrest of Benjamin Dominguez.

Dominguez is a sexually violent predator from the El Paso area, is a Barrio Azteca gang member with a violent criminal history and numerous AKAs.

In 2001, Dominguez was convicted of Indecency with a Child. He served two years in TDCJ but was arrested again for Indecent Exposure a few months later. He has also served jail time in New Mexico.

In 2009, the El Paso Marshals Service issued a warrant for Dominguez's arrest for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. He is also wanted for Probation Violation by the New Mexico Corrections Department.

Dominguez is a transient who has lived in El Paso and Socorro, Texas, as well as Las Cruces, New Mexico; and Modesto, CA.



Race: W, Sex: M, DOB: 10/30/66, Ht: 5'7", Wgt: 225 lbs. AKA: Francisco Rodriguez, Ben Dominguez, Francisco Dominguez, Rogelio Morales, Rogelio Lopez Rogelio Mendoza, Morales, Rogelio Morales Ramirez, Johnny Rodriguez, Roger Rodriguez, Francisco Sanchez, Javier Zuniga, Chino. SMT: Tattoos: skulls, scorpion, and prison on left arm; panther, female holding shotgun, and eagle on right arm; barbed wire on left wrist; and "Yvette" on neck. Scars on chin, left elbow, and finger(s) on right hand. Needle marks on left arm. Wanted for: Failure to Register as a Sex Offender, Probation Violation and Possession of A Controlled Substance; Resisting, Evading or Obstructing An Officer. CCH: Indecency With a Child by Exposure, Failure to Comply With Sex Offender Registration, Assault Causes Bodily Injury, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Burglary, Failure to Identify-Giving False/Fictitious Info, and DWI. LKA: 10141 Kendrick Circle, El Paso. Caution: Subject should be considered armed and dangerous! Contact: **Texas Crime Stoppers** Text "DPS plus your tip" to 274637 (CRIMES) or call 1-800-252-TIPS (8477) - 24 hours a day.

2. Crime Update: A man was arrested in Killeen after using counterfeit money at a local strip club.

32-year-old Isaac Paul Aurelius was charged with possession of counterfeit money after trying to pay a bartender with fake twenty-dollar bills.

Police have arrested three people from the Waco area who are accused of buying items off of Craigslist using counterfeit money.

Dennis Glenn Bridger, 41, Tony Glenn Fisher, 29, and Samantha Williams-Karcher, 27, were arrested for engaging in organized crime, 2nd degree felony. All three are being held in the McLennan County Jail.

Waco detectives began investigating several cases of people using counterfeit money to buy electronics and other items from Craigslist back in June 2013.

Someone would contact the seller, set up a location to meet and then pay for the item with counterfeit money. To date, there have been at least 24 cases of people using the same scheme; additional arrests are expected in these cases.

3. Counterfeiting: Can You Spot the "Bogus Buck"? - A lot of work goes into creating bills that are hard to counterfeit. Nonetheless, some are so easy to fake, a teenager with the right equipment can do it.

Counterfeiting is about as old as civilization itself. During the last century of the Roman Republic (100 BC), Romans grew rich and socially mobile, and one of the ways the

upwardly mobile could gain acceptance by the patrician upper classes was to possess what old-moneyed Romans possessed.

With a PC, scanner and a color inkjet printer even you can create fake money. But, whether you're a normal person taking your change at a store, or you are a merchant accepting cash in your business, you need to be aware of the counterfeiting problem.

A person was recently indicted for counterfeiting one hundred dollar bills they used at stores in Tyler and Texarkana, on multiple days.

Authorities seized nearly two hundred items that were related to making counterfeit bills, including ink, paper, more than 30 printers, treasury seals, sheets of watermark security strips, and money plates.

An agent at the Dallas office of the Secret Service, part of the U.S. Treasury Department, that handles counterfeit cases, stated as a general rule, criminals aren't counterfeiting the "old" one hundred dollar bills anymore.

The Secret Service helped the police in Henderson, Texas recover thousands of dollars worth of counterfeit bills.

A local bank notified authorities when a customer brought in the bills after cashing a tax refund check.

Authorities followed the paper trail to determine where the check was cashed and uncovered more suspect information. Over the course of the investigation, officials seized numerous counterfeit \$100 bills totaling nearly \$10,000.

In Lufkin, police have always seen counterfeit cash floating around, but lately there's been a flood of it. Only recently were they able to trace the source of the "funny money". A search of the suspect's home produced \$11,800 worth of money at various stages. Some of it was found wadded-up because it was done wrong.

In yet another case, an undercover agent posing as a DHL Express driver came to the door of a far southwest Houston home.

The package to be delivered contained nearly \$750,000 in counterfeit monetary instruments, such as money orders and checks fresh from Nigeria.

It also was outfitted with a hidden beacon to signal waiting Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents who, soon after, raided the home.

The action points to the increase in financial scams and growing reach of criminals, who surf the Internet and use other means to anonymously troll for unwitting victims and pass off many millions of dollars a month in bogus dealings across the country.

Agents also found an additional \$1.8 million in bogus monetary instruments, as well ledgers, check-writing software, commercial

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grade printers, computers and Western Union receipts inside the house.

Typically, the criminals do business only via the Web and mail, never making face-to-face contact.

They send fake money orders for more than the price of what they are buying — as much as 25 percent more. Then they ask to have the extra money sent back to them.

Many e-mail scams are known to come out of Africa and elsewhere in which people claim to be wealthy and need a partner to get cash out of the country.

Know who you are doing business with, wait until a check clears before sending merchandise.

Counterfeiting of U.S. currency has been a core investigative responsibility of the Secret Service for 140 years. If you choose to counterfeit U.S. currency or other financial documents, the Secret Service will aggressively investigate and arrest violators and they will be prosecuted by the United States Attorney's office.

According to statistics provided by the U.S. Secret Service, Dallas District, there has been a significant increase in counterfeiting of U.S. currency over the past three years. Secret Service statistics show passed or seized counterfeit currency increased 100% from \$706,000 in 2003 to \$1,417,000 in 2005 in the Dallas District. U.S. Secret Service anticipates these recent arrests will have significant impact on this trend.

Most of the money looks like the real deal, easily fooling unsuspecting people and businesses. But, you don't have to get stuck with it. There are special markers available that will produce a black mark on fake bills; or you can hold it up to the light, revealing the security strip that reads "USA".

Also, criminals often wash real bills, and then use the real paper to print fake money, so the marker won't catch those notes.

Still, detecting counterfeit money may not be as tough as you might think. Unless the fake bill is crumbled to mask its age, the ink leaves a texture that is easy to feel because, when printed onto real money, is not completely absorbed by the paper. This is especially true of the black ink and the color-shifting ink.

Stores should pay more attention when someone tries to buy an inexpensive item, or multiple gift cards, with a single one hundred dollar bill.

Other methods include:

- Wrong paper, the colors are off or printed on only one side.
- Obvious things like duplicate serial numbers.
- Be suspicious of older bills or refuse to accept

older bills. Nearly all the pre-1996 money that is actually legitimate has been taken out of circulation and destroyed already.

- Look at bills in the light. The color-shift ink is very hard to fake. The security stripe and watermark are impossible to duplicate with an inkjet printer.
- If you believe you are receiving a counterfeit bill, call the police.

What now is the next step to catching counterfeiters? "The Secret Service keeps track of all the counterfeit bills' serial numbers associated with their suspects. That way they can track where their counterfeits are used, and then hopefully track them (counterfeit bill producers) down.

Then there are the traders in counterfeit goods and commodities: The most popular destinations for 'bagging a bargain' are Spain, Turkey, Thailand, Greece and China. As for the most coveted items: handbags were top of the list, followed by designer clothes, sunglasses, watches and jewellery.

Most of us know when we're buying fakes. So, what is the harm in it?

It's not just intellectual property that's being stolen but every fake handbag is a handbag that they don't sell, which makes it harder for them to control their image.

There was a controversial report for the British Journal of Criminology that actually argued it was a waste of police time to spend a lot of effort on combating counterfeiting of designer goods and that resource should be poured into targeting more dangerous fakes, such as counterfeit drugs and aircraft parts.

Another study suggests that sales of genuine luxury items can in fact benefit from a rise in the number of fakes sold.

Effectively, counterfeit items were acting as free advertising for the real thing or pose as a "gateway product"; when the fake falls apart, the buyer then decides to buy the real thing.

The real question for the consumer is - "Where is the money spent on fake goods really going"?

Counterfeiting is very profitable. At the same time, it's a lot less risky than selling drugs or being involved in other illegal activities. The chances of getting caught are low and, in many countries, the penalties aren't that severe. So that makes it attractive to organised criminals.

An OECD (Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development) report from 2007 notes that "the groups involved in counterfeiting and piracy include mafias in Europe and the Americas and Asian 'triads', which are also involved in heroin trafficking, prostitution, gambling, extortion, money laundering and human trafficking."

European police agency Interpol, which set up a dedicated group in 2002 to help fight

intellectual property crime, has also noted that counterfeiting is linked with terrorist financing.

In another instance - *Your Baby Can*, LLC, an on-line reading program for infants, was awarded a judgment against an Internet counterfeiter in the amount of \$155,600.

Judy Chan was found guilty of selling counterfeits of *Your Baby Can Read* on eBay under the seller ID "fine_treasure4u."

As *Your Baby Can* explains, counterfeit products typically leave consumers quite disappointed because they are inferior. In fact, according to *Your Baby Can*, hundreds of unhappy customers seek help from *Your Baby Can* to get refunds on inferior products purchased from counterfeiters.

Unfortunately no company can help consumers that are duped by unlawful counterfeiters. The best way to avoid being scammed into buying counterfeits is by purchasing products only from official websites and distributors.

Counterfeiting costs American businesses an estimated \$200 billion a year and the economy many millions of jobs every year. More alarming are its close ties to organized crime.

There is clear evidence that criminal networks play a significant role in counterfeiting and piracy.

The networks sometimes resort to extortion and bribery of public officials to facilitate their operations, thereby weakening the effectiveness of public institutions at the expense of society at large.

Counterfeiting is a major crime and innovative companies with real products, like *Your Baby Can* and so many others suffer a little bit of damage not to mention the billions dollars in lost taxable revenue.

Companies need to enforce their rights as vigorously as possible and show that crime does not pay when it comes to unlawfully duplicating copyrighted materials.

(Source: *How Luxury Lost its Luster* by Dana Thomas. Reprinted by arrangement of Penguin Press, a member of Penguin Group (USA), Inc. Copyright © 2007 by Dana Thomas, and <http://www.lostmag.com/issue29/counterfeiting.php#sthash.D2b6f2iO.dpuf>

4. On The Horizon: Bell County Reports First-of-the-Year Rabies Case - Killeen Animal

Control Officers responded to the 4500 block of Lonesome Dove on April 6, 2014 in reference to a dog that had been scratched by a skunk. The skunk was captured and per protocol it was processed for testing at the Texas Department of State Health Service, Austin Laboratory. The Texas Department of State Health Services notified the Killeen Animal Control Unit on April 8, 2014 that the skunk had tested positive for the rabies virus. Animal Control Officers will be distributing handouts in the area of Lonesome Dove to ensure the residents of that area are aware of this incident, the potential danger that has been identified and have a chance to prepare.