

## Special Alerts

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SA-89-2009  
June 17, 2009

TO: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (also of interest to Security Officer)  
SUBJECT: Counterfeit Cashier's Checks  
Summary: *Counterfeit cashier's checks bearing the name CommerceFirst Bank, Annapolis, Maryland, are reportedly in circulation.*

**CommerceFirst Bank, Annapolis, Maryland**, has contacted the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to report that counterfeit cashier's checks bearing the institution's name are in circulation.

The counterfeit items display the routing number **055003366**, which is assigned to CommerceFirst Bank. Counterfeit items display a security feature statement embedded in the top border and along the bottom border between two padlocks. The items also have a logo not associated with the bank in the top-left corner, and a telephone number not associated with the bank is shown below the bank's address.

Authentic cashier's checks are golden in color and display the bank's logo, name and address in the top center. A security feature statement is also shown below the dollar amount line, and a padlock icon is displayed on the lower-right side.

Copies of a counterfeit item and an authentic check (VOID) are attached for your review. Be aware that the appearance of counterfeit items can be modified and that additional variations may be presented.

Any information you have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of:

Jean J. Barnes  
Vice President  
CommerceFirst Bank  
1804 West Street, Suite 200  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
Telephone: (410) 280-6695  
Fax: (410) 280-2139  
E-mail: [jbarnes@commerce1st.com](mailto:jbarnes@commerce1st.com)

Information about counterfeit items, cyber-fraud incidents and other fraudulent activity may be forwarded to the FDIC's Cyber-Fraud and Financial Crimes Section, 550 17th Street, N.W., Room F-4004, Washington, D.C. 20429, or transmitted electronically to [alert@fdic.gov](mailto:alert@fdic.gov). Questions related to federal deposit insurance or consumer issues should be submitted to the FDIC using an online form that can be accessed at <http://www2.fdic.gov/starsmail/index.asp>.

For your reference, FDIC Special Alerts may be accessed from the FDIC's website at [www.fdic.gov/news/news/SpecialAlert/2009/index.html](http://www.fdic.gov/news/news/SpecialAlert/2009/index.html). To learn how to automatically receive FDIC Special Alerts through e-mail, please visit [www.fdic.gov/about/subscriptions/index.html](http://www.fdic.gov/about/subscriptions/index.html).

Sandra L. Thompson

Director  
Division of Supervision and Consumer Protection

Attachment (not available electronically)

*NOTE: As a security precaution, the FDIC does not post to its Web site electronic images of fraudulent items or authentic checks that have been counterfeited. This is to avoid attempts by others to use these instruments to facilitate additional fraud. Financial institutions can view images of the fraudulent items and authentic checks (marked as VOID) using the FDIC's free, secure Web site, FDICconnect. (See more information about FDICconnect at <http://www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2006/fil06032.html>.) Printed copies of each Special Alert and its attachment(s) may also be obtained from the FDIC's Public Information Center (telephone: 1-877-275-3342 or 703-562-2200; fax: 703-562-2296; or e-mail: [publicinfo@fdic.gov](mailto:publicinfo@fdic.gov)).*

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)

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