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Bremerton Police Arrest Suspect in Counterfeit $20 Bill Case

Bremerton Police Detectives arrested a 27 year old Kitsap County man after executing a search warrant at 11:00 AM on 10/8/15 at a Bremerton-area motel. Kyle P.M. Vickery was jailed following an extensive investigation following 61 counterfeit bill cases in our city, as well as counterfeit bills being passed from as far north as Suquamish and as far south as Lakewood.

Inside the rented room, detectives located a copy machine, “linen” type resume paper, and examples of counterfeit twenty dollar bills. Several electronic devices and documents were also seized. Narcotics were also found in the room. Detectives believe over $2000 has been circulated in our city, with multiple businesses and private persons being victims.

The suspect, and other persons believed to have been involved, would make the bills on the copier, iron and otherwise attempt to “wear” the bills, then find laptops and other electronic items on Craigslist. They would arrange a meeting to buy the items from private parties, and give them the counterfeit bills. The suspect would then put the items back on Craigslist to sell and receive legal bills, or pass them at area business.

Detective Beau Ayers said, “We are pleased to make an arrest in this case, but people need to be aware that there may be bills still out there.” The detective added that the “pens” some businesses use to check money are helpful, but an even better way to ensure a bill is legal is to use a small black light. The holograms built into legal bills will be easily and quickly visible, and are extremely difficult for counterfeiters to replicate. Ayers added, “we encourage businesses to look into these detectors, they are far more advanced in detecting counterfeit bills.” Anyone conducting business through web sites like Craigslist, be attentive to locations the “buyer” suggests and make sure you closely examine the money offered prior to the actual exchange. Report any illegal transactions. Black lights devices are available through retailers.

Vickery was jailed in the Kitsap County jail on $50,000 bail and additional charges may follow.

Detectives believe there are other persons involved in this ring, and the investigation will continue.