

# Could the check you are cashing be part of a scam?



## **KNOW THE SIGNS OF A FAKE CHECK SCAM:**

- ✓ You receive a notice claiming that you won a foreign lottery.
- ✓ You receive a solicitation to help someone transfer money from another country.
- ✓ Someone asks you to deposit a check into your bank account as part of your job as a “secret shopper.”
- ✓ You have posted an item for sale online and a buyer sends you a check for more than the item’s asking price.

## **ASK YOURSELF:**

- ✓ Did a stranger ask you to send money?
- ✓ Can you verify the identity of the person asking you to cash the check or wire funds?
- ✓ Does this offer sound too good to be true?
- ✓ Is there a clearance deadline date on the check?

## **GET A SECOND OPINION:**

- ✓ Local law enforcement and banking officers are mandated reporters trained to determine whether a check is fake.

Be a wise consumer and help us spread the news about fake check scams.

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For more information, please visit [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)



## **CONSUMER FRAUD HOTLINES**

Chicago: 1-800-386-5438  
Springfield: 1-800-243-0618  
TTY: 1-800-964-3013

