

Check Fraud hits Millennials

BBB Report Released

Fake check scams are on the rise, according to a report by the [Better Business Bureau](#). Millennials in their 20s were found to be the most frequently victimized age group by fraudsters.

According to the report, scammers are frequently successful because customers don't realize:

1. *Having funds credited to your bank account does not mean the cashed check is valid. When you debit against the credited fraudulent check as it works its way back to the issuing bank and discovered as counterfeit—you are held responsible.*
2. *Cashier's checks and postal money orders can be forged—if deposited in an account the account holder is often held responsible.*

The [National Consumers League](#) found **fake check complaints** were up 12% in 2017, the second most common complaint overall.

Common frauds that employ **fake checks** include mystery shopper check scams, check overpayment scams, law firm collection scams, car wrap scams, nanny or caregiver scams, sweepstakes, lotteries and small business fraud. Learn more about these scams and others in the [full report](#).

Fake check scams are growing rapidly and cost billions of dollars. Know the signs of a scam and the tips to avoid one:

1. Never send money to someone you have never met in-person.
2. Don't click on links or open unsolicited attachments.
3. Only buy online using secure transactions.
4. Never share personally identifiable information.
5. Use secure, traceable transactions.
6. Whenever possible, work with local businesses.

To learn more about **fake check scams**, visit the [Better Business Bureau](#) or speak with a Busey banker today.

