



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY
Treasury Division

August 1st 2015

MEDIA RELEASE

Fake Government Cheques in circulation

The Treasury Division of the Ministry of Finance and the Economy has been advised by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, that fraudulent cheques purporting to be Government cheques but which are actually fakes are being presented for encashment at local commercial banks.

The matter has been reported to the TTPS Fraud Squad which is currently investigating the matter. The Ministry of Finance and the Economy, the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and other regulatory/enforcement agencies are also working closely to deal with the matter. The banks have been alerted and are on the lookout for these fake cheques. Measures have also been put in place to prevent their encashment.

The Ministry of Finance and the Economy would like to use this opportunity to remind merchants that even where valid Government cheques are presented that they should not negotiate these on behalf of customers. Government cheques made out to individuals or companies are meant to be deposited at banks. Such cheques should never be endorsed over to a third party and merchants should not negotiate these cheques on behalf of payees.

The Treasury Division remains committed to honouring all legitimately issued Government Cheques and should any person(s) be found culpable in issuing and presenting fraudulent cheques they will be dealt with to the full extent of the law.

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