

PRESS RELEASE

Newark Police Department

Chief of Police Paul Tiernan

Released by Public Information Officer Corporal James Spadola
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Newark Police Arrest Counterfeit Bill Suspect

On September 14th at approximately 12:02am, a suspect (later identified as Dvonte Johnson) attempted to use a counterfeit \$100 bill at Timothy's Restaurant. Timothy's staff originally thought the bill was real and accepted the transaction and gave the suspect \$90 in change. After having some concerns about the bill, they showed it to NPD officers who deemed it counterfeit. The officers detained Johnson in the parking lot. He was arrested for the following charges and committed to Howard R. Young Correctional Institution (HRYCI) in lieu of \$3,000 secured bond.

Charges: Forgery 1st Degree
Theft Under \$1,500

On September 15th, NPD was advised by Grotto's of an incident that occurred on September 13th at approximately 11:35pm. During that incident, a suspect used a counterfeit \$100 bill to make a purchase and received \$97.00 in change before leaving the restaurant. NPD officers later viewed the surveillance photos and observed the suspect to be the same person as involved in the Timothy's incident. On September 16th, NPD responded to HRYCI and charged Johnson with this additional incident. He received \$600 secured bond for the charges below:

Charges: Forgery 1st Degree
Theft Under \$1,500

Defendant: Dvonte Johnson, age 23
Wilmington, DE 19801

Anyone with additional information on this incident should contact Officer Adam Heath at **302-366-7100 ext. 3437** or adam.heath@cj.state.de.us.

You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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