



WHAT TO DO WITH SUSPECT BANKNOTES

Non-evidentiary counterfeits

If you have in your possession a suspected counterfeit banknote that is not the subject of a criminal investigation or prosecution, fill out a [suspect counterfeit banknote form](#), and send it, along with the suspected counterfeit banknote(s), via registered mail to the Australian Federal Police Currency Team postal address:

Australian Federal Police Currency Team
Locked Bag 4817
Somerton VIC 3062

A property receipt will be forwarded to your property office once the property is received.

If you have received a suspect banknote from a member of the public, it is important to note that if the banknote is found to be counterfeit, the person will not be reimbursed the value of the banknote. If, however, the banknote is found to be genuine, the person will be reimbursed the full value of the banknote.

Seized Counterfeits

Any evidence seized (i.e. counterfeits, material or equipment connected to the production of counterfeits such as printers, tools, paper, etc.), may be retained for 90 days after the seizure. If a prosecution for an offence against the *Crimes (Currency) Act 1981* is instituted before that date, then the evidence can be retained. Qualified Reserve Bank Counterfeit Examiners are able to provide expert witness statements if required.

Law enforcement agencies requiring expert witness statements for court should contact the Australian Federal Police. As part of the process a [suspect counterfeit banknote submission form](#) must be completed and submitted to the AFP along with the relevant evidence. All associated evidence will be returned upon completion of the statement. If an Reserve Bank Counterfeit Examiner is required to attend court, a witness summons or subpoena must be provided no less than 10 business days prior to the scheduled appearance.

Following a successful prosecution and where the court is satisfied that the evidence is forfeited under section 29 of the *Crimes (Currency) Act*, a condemnation order should be sought for the disposal of the evidence. The evidence, together with a copy of the order, should then be sent to the AFP Currency Team who will coordinate their destruction in accordance with the *Crimes (Currency) Act 1981*.

Counterfeits that are not or are no longer required for prosecution should be sent, together with a completed [suspect counterfeit banknote submission form](#) (available on the AFP website) to the AFP Currency Team postal address via registered mail. A property receipt will be issued once the counterfeits are received. These counterfeits will be held for a period of 90 days and then will be destroyed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call
1800 633 220 (8.30 am – 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday)

Email
banknotes@rba.gov.au

Website
banknotes.rba.gov.au



HANDLING PRACTICES

Non-evidentiary suspect banknotes

If a suspected counterfeit banknote is not the subject of a criminal investigation or prosecution, send the suspect banknote along with a completed suspect counterfeit banknote form to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) Currency postal address via registered mail.

A property receipt will be forwarded to you acknowledging receipt of the property. Suspected counterfeit banknotes deemed genuine will be returned to the owner.

Evidentiary suspect banknotes

Law enforcement agencies requiring expert witness statements for court should contact the AFP Currency Team. You will need to submit the suspected counterfeit banknote(s) along with a completed suspect counterfeit banknote form. Appropriately qualified Reserve Bank of Australia personnel are authorised to examine the banknotes(s) and provide expert witness statements.

Further information on what to do with suspected counterfeit banknotes can be found on the [AFP website](#).

Australian Federal Police Currency Team contact details

Phone: (03) 9303 0236

Email: currency@afp.gov.au

Address:

Australian Federal Police

Locked Bag 4817

Somerton VIC 3062

Counterfeit coin

For information about counterfeit coin, contact the Australian Federal Police:

<http://www.afp.gov.au/contact.aspx>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Email
banknotes@rba.gov.au

Website
banknotes.rba.gov.au