



A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

THOMAS G. LONGO, CHIEF

## **Fraud Prevention Alert**

Recent advertisements in the USF Oracle have resulted in incidents of fraud and the loss of several thousand dollars to those who responded to the advertisement. These advertisements can often appear professional and may have been legitimately purchased by someone involved in the scam. Therefore, the publication listing such advertisements may not be aware of the fraudulent intent.

Once an applicant responds to the advertisement the applicant will be asked to send a resume and a notice of availability to the advertising entity. The applicant and the advertising entity will generally engage in an exchange of email, or other communication. Ultimately the applicant will be asked to receive checks for deposit in their personal accounts, and then send money orders to overseas addresses.

Typically, in these types of cases, the checks being sent to the applicant for deposit are counterfeit, and have no value. Unfortunately, by the time the applicant becomes aware of the counterfeit checks, money orders have already been dispatched and the applicant has suffered a considerable loss of personal funds.

***Please be aware of fraudulent acts and thoroughly research any advertisement to which you***