



CENTRAL BANK of SOLOMON ISLANDS

P.O. BOX 634, Honiara, Solomon Islands

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Press Release: 05/2016

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2016

## **Public warned on counterfeit notes circulating**

**Honiara 22.03.16** – The Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI) has confirmed that two counterfeit notes were recently impounded by a local business firm operating in Taro, Choiseul Province.

The two suspected counterfeit \$100 dollar notes were identified by the firm's cashier whilst receiving cash from an e-top up agent. The top up agent himself could not differentiate the notes also.

CBSI wishes to warn the public especially cashiers to take their time to authenticate notes if they suspect a note to be a counterfeit. This advice comes as the Easter weekend approaches and all business houses including market vendors are strongly reminded to be vigilant, so that they do not fall victims to these counterfeiters during the busy festive season.

It has been noted that culprits often choose such busy occasions to introduce counterfeit notes to unsuspecting businesses or individual market vendors.

CBSI believes that some of these counterfeit notes could already be circulating around other provinces, thus reminds the general public to be aware of the security features embedded on genuine banknotes.

The most visible security features in genuine banknotes are; the silver thread line woven across the banknotes, watermark image depicting an eagle's head (new series) and the text 'CBSI' which can be seen from both sides of the banknotes. The silver dual image hologram is clearly visible on the old series \$50 and \$100 notes which are now being replaced by the see-through 'window' where a shark and crocodile can be clearly seen on the front of the note in the new series \$50 and \$100 notes. Additionally, check colour and texture of banknotes:

the colour should stand out and the texture should be rough on your hands. The size and edges are even in genuine banknotes.

If any member of the public has a counterfeit banknote in his or her possession, it is advisable to hold on to that note and do not re – circulate it and immediately contact CBSI or your nearest police station. They must also take note of the description of the person who passed the fake banknote, including those present with them (i.e. companions or friends).

Counterfeiting is illegal in the Solomon Islands and any person caught pursuing this illegal activity can be fined or imprisoned.

**Ends//**

For more information, please contact:

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