



FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

Station K, Dallas, Texas 75222

Circular No. 84-2
January 12, 1984

TO: All depository institutions in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District

ATTENTION: Operations Officer

SUBJECT: Change in size of money orders

SUMMARY: The United States Postal Service has announced a change in the size and design of Post Office money orders.

DETAILS: The U.S. Postal Service will phase in a new check-size money order in January 1984. Both the present and new forms are the same length and conform to the American Bankers Association (ABA) check standards. The new form, however, has an ABA routing number 000008002, is only two and three-fourths inches wide, and has major design changes which are outlined below:

A. **CUSTOMER RECEIPT.** The primary revisions are that the side-by-side Pay To and From sections are separated by the USPS seal on the new form. Also, the Pay To and From sections provide blank areas for writing in names and addresses of the sender and payee to make the customer information more legible.

B. **MONEY ORDER.** The important revisions on the check-size form are:

1. **Front**
 - a. Two USPS seals in yellow form the background in the area where the dollars and cents value of the money order will be imprinted. This will make any efforts to raise money order amounts more obvious.

- b. The Pay To and From sections are arranged side-by-side and separated by the USPS seal because of space limitations.
- c. The phrase Not Valid If Over Five Hundred Dollars Maximum is deleted from the front and stated with emphasis on the back.

2. Back

- a. The yellow background design has been eliminated to facilitate fingerprint identification.
- b. The new ink color used for printing the statements on the back fades when the back of the money order is micro-filmed, making bank endorsement stamps more legible.
- c. Maximum Value Five Hundred Dollars is printed on the back of the check-size form.
- d. The paragraph Ownership....etc. is located beneath the Warning--Cashier paragraph. This leaves the endorsement signature in the same area.
- e. Part of the Warning--Cashier paragraph is underlined for emphasis. Holding the money order to the light to examine the dollar amount area is very effective in detecting erasures on a money order.

MORE INFORMATION:

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ADDITIONAL COPIES:

Public Affairs Department, Extension 6289