

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE INVESTIGATIVE CHECKLIST

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF INSTRUMENTS OF FINANCIAL FRAUD

RCW 9A.56.320(5)

ELEMENTS

1. The suspect possessed a check-making machine, equipment, or software; AND
2. The suspect intended to use or distribute checks for the purpose of defrauding an account holder, business, financial institution, or any other person or organization.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- [] 1. Seize check-making equipment, blank check stock, printed checks, stolen mail, forged checks, personal identification cards, etc. Photograph evidence items where found, and note specific location where found in your report. Include photocopies of a sufficient number of these items in your report to establish the fraudulent purpose of the possession.
- [] 2. Determine who had access to the check-making equipment, and document that, for example, by seizing papers of occupancy/ownership for the building/vehicle were found; obtaining witness statements; latent prints; etc. If equipment in a bedroom, seize sample clothing items in bedroom to establish sex/size of bedroom occupants.
- [] 3. Copy of police reports regarding the theft of any stolen mail, checks, or identification cards found with the check-making equipment.
- [] 4. Obtain from suspect, if possible, as much detailed information from him as you can regarding how he obtained stolen items, who forged the checks, etc. Provable lies are as worthy as admissions.
- [] 5. If computer equipment seized, search computer (pursuant to a search warrant) for evidence of check-making scheme.