

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Elk Point, S.D. – State's Attorney Jerry A. Miller said today that Nancy Fuehrer, a 61 year old Jefferson, SD resident plead guilty on October 1, 2012, and was sentenced in the 1st Circuit Court, in Union County on October 1, 2012 to one count of Possession of a Known Forged Instrument, a class 6 felony.

Fuehrer received a suspended imposition of sentence from the court. She was placed on un-supervised probation for sixty days after which the offense will be expunged from her criminal record. At the time of sentencing Fuehrer produced proof that restitution had been paid in full to the victim bank that accepted the counterfeit travelers checks that she passed. Restitution was \$5000. Fuehrer was ordered to pay fine of four-hundred (\$400) dollar. This was Fuehrer's first criminal offense.

Fuehrer became involved in an on-line scam dealing in counterfeit travelers checks. As the scam progressed, Fuehrer was convinced to take possession of ten counterfeit checks and pass them in exchange for currency. Fuehrer passed one successfully in Florida and attempted to pass nine more at a bank. The bank identified the checks as being counterfeit immediately. Knowing this Fuehrer continued her association with this on-line contact and she was sent ten more checks which she passed at a bank in Jefferson SD. Fuehrer received and sent \$5000 to her on-line contact. While charges were pending against Fuehrer, she received ten more checks which were turned over to law enforcement immediately. Fuehrer discontinued her association with her on-line contact and cooperated fully with law enforcement.

Bill McKelvey, the Jefferson Chief of Police, investigated this offense. The public should be cautious of on-line scams. Scam Artists target individuals into draining the victim's resources. The Scam Artist does not care if the person being scammed is hurt financial or charged criminally. The Attorney General employs attorneys to help citizens avoid being scammed. The Consumer protection division can be contacted at (605) 773-4400 of Consumer Help Line at 1-800-300-1986 (South Dakota only). Their web-site can be found at <http://atg.sd.gov/Consumers.aspx>.