

Worthless Check Program

Each Year, Baldwin County merchants lose thousands of dollars to bad check writers. In an effort to reduce those losses, the District Attorney has *Worthless Check Units* located in Bay Minette, Fairhope and Foley which allow bad check writers to pay full restitution to their victims in lieu of criminal prosecution. If bad check writers fail to pay restitution, they face criminal charges and prosecution.

The Worthless Check Unit can provide you with the required procedures to follow to collect payment on a bad check, the necessary documents and the allowed amount of fees that will be added to the check. Please contact the Unit closest to you to receive a packet.

We will begin prosecution to collect restitution on your behalf at no cost to you.

Why Use The Worthless Check Unit Instead Of A Check Collection Agency?

- We do not charge a fee to use our service.
- We do not take a share or cut of your restitution or service charge
- Your service is not-restricted based on the volume or amount of checks you refer to us.
- There is no purchase or lease of expensive hardware or equipment.

A check is a promise to pay.

The Baldwin County District Attorney's Office intends to see that bad check writers do just that. But there are some things you can do to save yourself from loss, delayed income and aggravation:

You are the first line of defense against fraud. Half of all bad checks can be eliminated by carefully checking information.

- Is the name and correct address on the check?
- Is it dated correctly?
- Does the writer look like the picture on the Driver's License?
- Is the amount in numbers the same as what is written?
- Is the writing consistent, with no crowding or change in ink color or density?

Don't delay contacting our Worthless Check Unit. We can't help if the check is more than **one-year old**.