Passed Prop Cash Leads To Arrest

A stack of prop money. Photo credit: Ebay

(KMZA)--Counterfeit cash is discovered in Pottawatomie County; and through a joint investigation involving the county's Sheriff's Office, and the Police Departments of Lansing and Olathe, a suspect was developed, located, and arrested.

Pottawatomie County Sheriff Greg Riat identifies him as 30-year-old Michael Baum, of Topeka. He's facing charges of theft by deception and making false information.

He remains in custody on a bond of \$10,000.

Riat says the investigation was launched December 22 when his office was called to a Manhattan business that received counterfeit \$100 bills for a \$500 purchase. According to Riat, the bills were marked with the phrase "For Motion Picture Use Only."

The prop money, intended to be used by film makers, is easily purchased at well known online retailers.

Riat says investigators have learned that other similar bills have reportedly been circulating not only in Pottawatomie County, but other northeast Kansas locations. He urges awareness by anyone accepting cash payments.

Anyone with information regarding the case should contact the Sheriff's Office at 785-457-3353.

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