



For Immediate Release  
01/31/2017

Contact: Harrisonburg Police Department  
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540-437-2672  
[www.harrisonburgva.gov/police](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/police)

### **HPD Makes Arrest in Counterfeit Case**

Harrisonburg, VA – On November 28, 2016 the Harrisonburg Police Department responded to Target located at 1995 East Market Street in the City of Harrisonburg to take a report of counterfeit bills being passed. It was then discovered that approximately a week earlier the store received several fraudulent \$100 bills and provided descriptions of the suspects. Target personnel stated that the suspects in this case may have also been involved with counterfeit cases in other jurisdictions.

Detectives with the Major Crimes Unit then continued the investigation in conjunction with Target's loss prevention personnel and other law enforcement agencies. As a result of this investigation detectives were then able to identify the two suspects in the case. It was then discovered that the suspects involved in the case reported to HPD on November 28, 2016 had been arrested in Fairfax County for attempting to employ more counterfeit \$100 bills in December of 2016.

The suspects have been identified and charged as follows:

Chia Gittens, 26, of Hyattsville Maryland was arrested on January 17, 2017 in Fairfax, Virginia and charged with money laundering, conspiracy to commit a felony, forgery, obtain by false pretense, conspire to obtain by false pretense and possession of forged bank note.

Everett Whitley, 31, of Landover Maryland was arrested on January 27, 2017 in Harrisonburg, Virginia and charged with money laundering, conspiracy to commit a felony, forgery, obtain by false pretense, conspire to obtain by false pretense and possession of forged bank notes.

*Harrisonburg*  
VIRGINIA



POLICE DEPARTMENT  
101 North Main Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802  
Emergency 911  
Non-Emergency 540-434-4436  
Chief Stephen P. Monticelli

Anyone with information pertaining to this or other cases should contact the Major Crimes Unit at (540) 437-2640. Callers can provide anonymous tips at Crime Solvers: 540-574-5050 or text "HPD" plus the tip to CRIMES (274637). Witnesses are reminded that Crime Solvers may award monetary compensation for providing pertinent information regarding this or other criminal investigations.

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