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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Time:

The Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office took three separate complaints on January 25, 2008, from internet sellers who had received checks for more than the listed sale price. All of the complainants reside in Tuscarawas County and had exchanged e-mails with potential buyers of their listed items. After e-mail and phone conversations between the buyer and seller checks were sent for the purchase. The checks were sometimes sent for thousands more than the selling price. The sellers were then to cash the checks for the full amount and send back the remaining funds. This is a scam that has been widely used for quite some time. Once the check is cashed and monies sent back the complainant is held responsible for the check when it does not clear or found to be fraudulent.

The Sheriff's Office is once again reminding the general public to avoid dealing with anyone or situations that appear complicated or too good to be true! All internet sales or purchases should be done with extreme caution especially when large amounts of money are involved. The majority of these cases cannot be prosecuted due to complicated jurisdictional issues or the inability to locate the suspects.