

НАРОДНА БАНКА

СРБИЈЕ



# REGULATIONS GOVERNING COUNTERFEIT SUPPRESSION

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Cash Department

September 2012

# INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SIGNED IN 1929

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## REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE HANDLING OF SUSPECTED COUNTERFEIT MONEY

### 1. LAW ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY (December 9, 1930)

- The Convention stipulates punishments for any fraudulent making or altering the currency and uttering of counterfeit currency with knowledge that it is counterfeit.
- Even attempts to commit the foregoing acts are punishable.
- No distinction is allowed in the scale of punishments for the mentioned offences between acts relating to domestic or foreign currency.
- It is also punishable to make, receive or obtain instruments or other articles peculiarly adapted for the counterfeiting or altering of currency.
- Counterfeit currency, as well as instruments or other articles used for counterfeiting shall be seized and confiscated and handed over to the Government or bank of issue whose currency is in question.
- Every country participating in the Convention shall establish its central office which should be in close contact with central offices of other participating countries, police authorities and institutions issuing currency, all of them together fighting against counterfeiting currency (by exchanging information on new currency issues, withdrawal of currency from circulation, time limits for money replacement, discovery of counterfeits and description of forgery, exchange of forged banknotes...)



# CRIMINAL CODE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

## 2. CRIMINAL CODE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

### Chapter Twenty-Two OFFENCES AGAINST ECONOMIC INTERESTS

#### Counterfeiting Money Article 223

- ((1) Whoever produces forged money with intent to put it in circulation as genuine or who with same intent alters genuine money, shall be punished by imprisonment of two to twelve years.
- (2) Whoever procures forged money with intent to circulate it as real or who puts forged money in circulation, shall be punished by imprisonment of one to ten years.
- (3) If by the offence specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article forged money is produced, altered, circulated or procured in an amount exceeding one million five hundred thousand dinars and/or a corresponding amount in foreign currency, the offender shall be punished by imprisonment of five to fifteen years.
- (4) Whoever accepting forged money as genuine, and upon learning that it is counterfeit, puts it in circulation or whoever knows that forged money is produced or that forged money is put in circulation and fails to report it, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment up to one year.
- (5) Forged money shall be impounded.

#### Making, Acquiring and Giving to Another of Means for Counterfeiting Article 227

- (1) Whoever makes, acquires, sells or gives to another to use means for producing forged money or forged securities, shall be punished by imprisonment of six months to five years.
- (2) Whoever makes, acquires, sells or gives to another to use means for producing forged credit cards or forged value tokens, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment up to two years.
- (3) The means specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be impounded.



# LAW ON THE NATIONAL BANK OF SERBIA

## 3. LAW ON THE NATIONAL BANK OF SERBIA

### Article 58

Counterfeit banknotes and counterfeit or damaged (punched) coins shall not be legal tender.

If banknotes and coins that are legal tender in the Republic of Serbia or foreign banknotes are suspected of being counterfeit, the National Bank of Serbia shall establish their authenticity.

Banknotes and coins referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be delivered to the National Bank of Serbia without any compensation.

The National Bank of Serbia shall prescribe the manner of acting with the banknotes and coins referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article.

The National Bank of Serbia shall prescribe the conditions under which banknotes and coins in circulation or withdrawn from circulation may be reproduced.

## 4. DECISION ON HANDLING SUSPECTED COUNTERFEIT MONEY (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia 18/2011)

This Decision sets forth the method the National Bank of Serbia, banks and licensed exchange dealers apply in handling suspected counterfeit money.

Banks and licensed exchange dealers shall verify the authenticity of money received from clients, the money being processed and money paid out to clients, and shall submit for expertise to the National Bank of Serbia the suspected counterfeit money.

If the person delivering suspected counterfeit money is present at the moment when such suspicion is acknowledged, the bank and licensed exchange dealer shall inform thereof this person and the Ministry of Interior without delay. The suspected counterfeit money shall be temporarily seized from the person delivering money. At the same time, this person shall be issued a receipt for the money temporarily seized (Annex 1) and shall be requested to wait for the arrival of the Ministry of Interior representative.



# COUNTERFEITS

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If the person delivering money has a diplomatic passport, the bank and licensed exchange dealer shall act as specified in paragraph 1 hereof, in which case the Ministry of Interior shall not be informed.

Following the completion of expertise, the Department shall submit to the bank the report on the completion of expertise of suspected counterfeit (Annexes 3 and 4). The report shall specify whether money is counterfeit (Annex 3) or genuine (Annex 4). If determined that money is counterfeit, its quality, indicative and type (if any) shall be determined.

Money counterfeits shall be ranked by the quality of their production and/or the degree of similarity to genuine money, as follows:

- poor quality counterfeits (1),
- medium quality counterfeits (2),
- good quality counterfeits (3),
- very good quality counterfeits (4),
- finest quality counterfeits (5).

If it is determined that the money is genuine, the Department shall deliver to the bank the appropriate value of the money in the same currency or shall credit the bank's account by the same amount. The bank shall ensure that the money is immediately returned to the person delivering money or shall ensure that this person's account is credited by the same amount.

The National Bank of Serbia shall inform the Ministry of Interior, banks and licensed exchange dealers of the appearance of new types of money counterfeits, notably counterfeits of very good (4) and finest quality (5).

The National Bank of Serbia shall organise training for employees in banks, licensed exchange dealers and the Ministry of Interior, in order to familiarise them with money security features and enable them to more efficiently detect counterfeit money.



## 5. DECISION ON CONDITIONS FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF BANKNOTES AND COINS (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia 18/2011)

This Decision sets forth the conditions to be met for the reproduction of banknotes and coins issued by the National Bank of Serbia in line with the Law on the National Bank of Serbia. Banknotes and coins referred to in paragraph 1 hereof shall be understood to mean circulating banknotes and coins, or banknotes and coins withdrawn from circulation but whose redemption deadline has not expired.

‘Reproduction’ means any electronic or tangible image that uses all or part of a banknote or coin, whereas such image gives the general impression of the banknote or coin referred to in Section 1 hereof.

Banknotes and coins may be reproduced if it is evident that those are not banknotes or coins referred to in Section 1 hereof, particularly in case of:

- one-sided reproductions, provided that the size of the reproduction is at least 125% of both the length and width or at most 75% of both the length and width of the respective banknote or coin;
- two-sided reproductions, provided that the size of the reproduction is at least 200% of both the length and width or at most 50% of both the length and width of the respective banknote or coin;
- black and white reproductions, irrespective of the dimensions of the banknote or coin;
- electronic reproduction whose resolution does not exceed 72 dpi (dots per inch).

On request of interested parties, the National Bank of Serbia may grant its consent to the reproduction of banknotes or coins not complying with the criteria of Section 3 hereof – if it ascertains that such reproductions cannot be mistaken by the general public for a genuine banknote or coin referred to in Section 1 hereof.