



All consumers should be on alert for letters, similar to the one included that are being received via mail. The letter includes a check made payable directly to the consumer, along with detailed instructions on how to disposition the funds. The letter states the consumer has been selected to be a "Mystery Shopper". All the consumer needs to do is deposit the check, withdraw the funds, and purchase gift cards. The consumer is then asked to text or email photos of the cards directly to the fraudsters. The consumer is even "paid" for their work! Unfortunately, the check ends up returned as being fictitious and a financial loss occurs.

The Federal Trade Commission has released an article pertaining to this particular scam, which is included below.

At First Federal, we want to keep you and your account safe! Please be aware of these types of scams and never hesitate to contact us if you receive something that doesn't seem quite right.

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2018/05/scam-story-secret-shopping-and-fake-checks?fbclid=IwAR0c3NOzOI376JnkG0frFstANF6198VW9-YqEOk1k6qooga3diYCO7xMVH0>

Member FDIC
Equal Housing
Lender

Agent Number: #9660

Survey and Research Document section 1 Batch

On receipt of this letter, we expect a text of acknowledgement to (434) 264-7648 or (254) 233-8535 and also email [redacted] or [redacted]@gmail.com

Dear Mystery Shopper,

This letter is to notify you that the Mystery Shopper job you applied for has been considered. We sincerely apologize for the delay in getting across to you. This envelope contains a total payment of \$2,477.70 (cashier's check) Which the company has issued out for your first assignment and included is your upfront pay of \$477.70 with additional fund which you will use in executing this exciting Mystery Shopper Assignment. Read and make sure you understand all that is stated in the letter to avoid any mistakes.

Deduct your commission which is \$400, and extra \$50 to cover cost of gas/transportation & \$27 from these you will be paying the Gift cards taxes and would be donating \$10 to a charity Organization. [Information will be given after your task assigned is completed & report is received] while you purchase the gift cards with \$2,000

FIRST ASSIGNMENT:

- 1) Locate any stores like Walmart, BestBuy, Target, CVs, Rite Aid, Walgreens store close to you.
- 2) Evaluate the stores near you by purchasing Ebay Gift Cards of \$1000 and Google Play Gift cards of \$1000. There have been various reports of lapses in the services of their Management and some of their staffs in some of these locations. For the ebay, you can get denominations like \$100, \$200 and \$500 for the Google Play, You can get \$500

INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:

This envelope contains a total payment of \$2,475 (You are mandated to deposit it as it will clear in a day and complete the assignment) then deduct your upfront pay of \$475. You are to take \$2,000 to the stores and purchase The Gift Cards making a total of \$2,000 (either Cash or Swiping of Debit Cards are allowed for payment at CVS). In these other locations, customers have reportedly complained that their funds were missing and was not available to them.

NOTE: If you can complete the assignment with 48 hours, your second assignment will come on time with a bonus of \$300.

==YOUR SECRET EVALUATION TO CARRY OUT==

- (1) On your arrival at stores did you undergo any challenges locating the stores?
- (2) How was the Outlook of the Store?
- (3) How was the Customer service professionalism at the store?
- (4) How fast and Efficient was the process of purchasing the Ebay Gift Cards and the Google Play?
- (5) How close was the stores Location to your area?
- (6) Information that you think would be helpful to us to understand more about the Ebay Gift Cards and the Google Play Cards

send in your Evaluation Report with the following transfer details inclusive;
TEXT/EMAIL the details below for our evaluation once task is completed.

- The name and address of stores evaluated & the time taken to complete the task.
- Use a pen to indicate the amount at the back of Each Cards
- TEXT/EMAIL Very Clear Photo Snapped or Scanned Picture Copy of Scratched Cards
- Professionalism / Efficiency
- Limit you can purchase from each store
- Please rate the Customer Service overall on 5 point scale: (Excellent - 5, Good - 4, Average - 3, Fair - 2, Poor - 1)

NOTE:

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR ASSIGNMENT, IT IS PARAMOUNT YOU SEND A TEXT MESSAGE or PICTURE MESSAGE OF THE SCRATCHED CARDS TO (434) 264-7648 or (254) 233-8535 AND ALSO SEND AN EMAIL OF YOUR COMPLETED EVALUATION REPORT WITH THE SCRATCHED CARD DETAILS to [redacted]@gmail.com or [redacted]@gmail.com SO THAT YOU CAN GET STARTED ON YOUR SECOND MYSTERY SHOPPER ASSIGNMENT IMMEDIATELY.

Task Manager
Peter Rivera

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(434) 264-7648 or (254) 233-8535