

Contact: Chief Daniel Ward
Phone: (620) 441-4447
Fax: (620) 442-1410
dward@arkansascityks.gov

Police Department
City of Arkansas City
117 W. Central Ave.
Arkansas City, KS 67005



News Release

Winfield woman arrested on suspicion of counterfeiting, theft

Watterson also accused of possession of drug paraphernalia, stolen property

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (January 16, 2020) — The Arkansas City Police Department arrested a Winfield woman Tuesday on suspicion of counterfeiting after she allegedly attempted to use fake bills.

Amy Mirissa Watterson, 43, was arrested on suspicion of five felony counts of counterfeiting (each count is for an amount greater than \$25,000), as well as one misdemeanor count each of criminal trespass, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of stolen property and theft.

She was transported to and booked into the Cowley County Jail in Winfield in lieu of \$15,250 bond through Cowley County District Court in Arkansas City.

Watterson remained in custody at the time of this release.

Officers responded about 3 p.m. Tuesday to a local restaurant for a report of a person who had attempted to pass fake money. The suspect left before they arrived, but was found shortly afterward.

The suspect, later identified as Watterson, was arrested after she was found to be in possession of several bills of fake currency. Further investigation determined she had attempted to pass false bills at multiple locations in the Arkansas City area, as well as in other jurisdictions.

"We are asking local businesses to be extra vigilant when accepting larger-denomination bills that potentially could be fake or counterfeit," warned Police Chief Dan Ward.

A defendant's guilt or innocence is to be determined by a court of law.

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For immediate release