

Courtesy of:

MORGAN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S
WORTHLESS CHECK UNIT

BAD CHECKS



SCOTT ANDERSON, *District Attorney*



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is there a charge for this service?
A: There is no charge to the victim.

Q: Who is eligible for this service?
A: Any person who has received a worthless check while transacting business in Morgan County.

TAKE CONTROL.

The Morgan County District Attorney's Worthless Check Unit was formed in 1985 to help the victims of worthless checks collect restitution. This unit is a self-funded service of the District Attorney's Office and operates at no charge to the victims. The unit also assists with the prosecution of those who issue worthless checks.

THIS BROCHURE HAS BEEN PREPARED TO GIVE YOU VALUABLE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE STEPS REQUIRED TO COLLECT ON BAD CHECKS.

As your District Attorney, I am committed to using the resources of my office in assisting merchants and others in curbing worthless check activity. As with any group of people engaged in a common undertaking, the more we cooperate, the more successful we will be. If we work together and follow the statutory procedures, we can significantly reduce the problem of bad checks in Morgan County.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Anderson", written in a cursive style.

Scott Anderson

District Attorney
Morgan County, Alabama



The Morgan County District Attorney's Worthless Check Unit assists merchants in collecting the full face value of a check plus a service fee based on Alabama's Worthless Check Statute. The Unit provides materials and information to merchants to start the collection process and assists in screening the information provided by the merchant to obtain a warrant. Experienced investigators are assigned to locate and handle all negotiations with the check writer and, when necessary, to arrest and prosecute the offenders.

Processing Checks for Prosecution

The responsibility of the merchant in recovering a bad check is to notify the check writer and then to wait for payment. If there is no response from the check writer, the Worthless Check Unit is then able to assist the merchant in the collection process by:

- Assessing the criminal liability
- Assisting the merchant in signing a complaint
- Obtaining a warrant
- Locating the defendant
- Attempting to negotiate a settlement
- Arresting the bad check writer
- Taking the person to trial

Free Service Benefits Businesses

The Morgan County District Attorney's Worthless Check Unit is a free service to merchants and businesses in Morgan County. *In fact, on all checks collected, 100% of the face value of the check is returned to the merchant plus an additional service charge.* Our service is not based on the volume of checks a merchant refers, neither are checks refused because of minor verification errors. Other benefits of working with the Worthless Check Unit are that you are not required to sign an exclusive contract, and our investigators have the legal power of the Alabama Statute and the District Attorney's Office behind them. The self-funded Worthless Check Unit is in place to assist the businesses of Morgan County.



How To Start

Merchants in Morgan County should request a Bad Check Kit from the Morgan County District Attorney's Worthless Check Unit. This kit provides valuable information to prepare you for the collection of worthless checks with the assistance of the District Attorney's Office.

THE BAD CHECK KIT:

The kit contains the following items:

1. *Bad Check Handbook*
2. *Window Decal*
3. *Cash Register Sticker*
4. *Copy of the Statutory Notice to Be Sent to the Check Writer*
5. *Worthless Check Information Sheet*

(256) 351-4740

Call to request your free kit today!

5th Floor Morgan County Courthouse
8:30 – 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday



Scott Anderson
District Attorney
Morgan County, Alabama



Morgan County District Attorney's
Worthless Check Unit
P.O. Box 1727 / Decatur, Alabama 35602
Phone (256) 351-4740 / Fax (256) 351-4607
www.morgancountyDA.com