

# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Kathleen Mehlretter  
Western District of New York

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## **TWO CHARGED IN MAKING & PASSING COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY**

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- United States Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter announced today that Ronald Evans, 52, and Tashine Knightner, 39, were charged in criminal complaints with manufacturing and using counterfeit currency. The charges carry a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron J. Mango stated that the complaints charge the defendants with making and passing counterfeit currency for the purchase of goods at the Wal-Mart store in Clarence, New York. Specifically, on August 6, 7, and 13, 2009, the defendants are alleged to have made several purchases at the Wal-Mart store using counterfeit currency. Additionally, Ronald Evans is being charged with possession of a firearm which was previously transported in interstate commerce.

The complaints were the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, United States Secret Service, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Tracy Gast and the New York State Police under the direction of Harry Corbitt .

The fact that a defendants have been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.