



**United States Department of Justice  
United States Attorney's Office  
District of Minnesota**

## **News Release**

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### **Owatonna man pleads guilty to passing counterfeit currency**

MINNEAPOLIS — Yesterday in federal court, a 27-year-old Owatonna man pleaded guilty to his role in a counterfeiting ring that targeted businesses along the Interstate-35 corridor between the Twin Cities and the Iowa border. Daniel Jay Wilson pleaded guilty to one count of uttering altered United States currency. Wilson, who was indicted along with seven co-defendants on August 2, 2011, entered his plea before U.S. District Court Judge Ann D. Montgomery without a plea agreement.

Wilson admitted that between December 23, 2010, and June 21, 2011, he passed four counterfeit \$100 bills in the Mankato area. In addition, Wilson admitted he knew the bills were chemically washed \$5 bills that had \$100 information reprinted on them.

For his crime, Wilson faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Judge Montgomery will determine his sentence at a future hearing, yet to be scheduled. Prosecution continues against Wilson's co-defendants.

This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Secret Service, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the South Central Drug Investigations Unit and the Rice County Drug Task Force. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Clifford B. Wardlaw.

The Secret Service and the Minnesota U.S. Attorney's Office want to remind people how to check for counterfeit currency. For more information, visit [http://www.secretservice.gov/know\\_your\\_money.shtml](http://www.secretservice.gov/know_your_money.shtml)

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