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PHILADELPHIA MAN GETS SEVEN YEARS FOR COUNTERFEITING

PHILADELPHIA – Kenneth Hampton, 46, of Philadelphia, was sentenced today to seven years in prison for conspiring to manufacture and transfer counterfeit currency, manufacturing counterfeit currency, and possession of counterfeit currency with the intent to defraud. Hampton was the mastermind behind a wide-ranging scheme to manufacture counterfeit currency and to pass that counterfeit currency in the greater Philadelphia area. He was still on federal supervised release for a similar offense when he planned and executed the scheme for which he was sentenced today. He pleaded guilty to the charges in October 2009.

The scheme involved bleaching the ink off of genuine \$5 bills and \$1 bills and scanning the image of genuine \$100 federal reserve notes (“FRNs”) onto the resulting blank paper thereby creating counterfeit bills that had the look and feel of genuine money.

In addition to the prison term, U.S. District Court Judge R. Barclay Surrick ordered Hampton to pay a fine in the amount \$1,000 and complete three years of supervised release.

The case was investigated by the United States Secret Service and was prosecuted by Assistant US Attorney Paul G. Shapiro.

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