

BANK OF BOTSWANA

Press Release

COUNTERFEIT P200 BANKNOTES IN CIRCULATION

The public is hereby alerted that the Police have discovered some fake P200 banknotes in circulation. The counterfeits are scanned copies of P200 banknotes bearing serial numbers AA 5784037, AB 7381030 and AB 8508607. The holographic stripes and the windowed security threads on the counterfeits appear as dark patches on the front and at the back. Furthermore, the counterfeit banknotes are made of ordinary commercial paper and, therefore, have a smooth surface when compared to genuine banknotes.

A genuine P200 has a holographic stripe appearing as a wide silver coloured stripe on the front of the banknote. The holographic stripe has an image of the Botswana coat of arms and switching images of a zebra's head and the numeral "200". The switching images on the holographic stripes should not all appear at the same time, but should switch from one to the other when the banknote is tilted from side to side. Furthermore, a genuine P200 has a windowed security thread, which changes colour from red to green, according to the viewing angle. When held up to the light, the thread can be seen as a continuous line reading "BoB 200".

The public is urged to be vigilant and exercise caution when accepting banknotes from any source, and should closely examine the specified security features. Any suspicious banknotes discovered should be immediately reported to the nearest Police station or Bank of Botswana offices in Gaborone or Francistown.

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For further information, please contact:
Mr. Andrew Sesinyi
Head of Communications
Tel: 3606083