

R. v. Cripps, Ontario Court of Justice, April 18th, 2006

Mr. Cripps, Wilson and Molnar attended various businesses trying to pass counterfeit \$100.00 bills. They successfully passed nine counterfeit \$100.00 bills before being arrested. The police seized two counterfeit bills in the glove compartment of his car and two counterfeit bills on the accused. A total of \$865.72 in cash was recovered from the three parties at the time of their arrest. The police also seized invoices from the purchases made by the offenders.

The accused was charged with one count of possession of counterfeit money and one count of uttering counterfeit money. The three individuals were involved in the distribution of the counterfeit money, but not in the production. Restitution was made to the business owners. Mr Cripps was 24 years old at the time of the offence and had prior convictions. His pre-sentence report was not positive. An affidavit from the Bank of Canada was filed at the sentencing hearing.

Defence counsel recommended a sentence of 6 months of imprisonment. His suggestion was informed by the fact that his accomplice, Mr Wilson, had served 37 days in pre-sentence custody and was imposed a 12 month probation term. Crown counsel recommended a sentence of 15 months of imprisonment. The judge imposed a term of incarceration of 6 months. In his decision, the judge stressed the seriousness of the offences and the impact on the Canadian economy.