

R. v. Vetesnik, Provincial Court, Manitoba, December 1st, 2006

Mr. Vetesnik plead guilty to one count of making counterfeit money and another count of possession of equipment for the purpose of making counterfeit money. The accused was 27 years old at the time of sentencing. He had a very lengthy property related criminal record, including convictions of counterfeiting.

The court described the operation has being sophisticated: it involved the use of holographic stripes, computers and special computer programs. It also involved setting up a distribution network. The accused's operation total between \$87,000.00 and \$88,000.00.

The judge quoted the Bank of Canada affidavit in his decision. Counsel had jointly suggested a sentence in the range of 4 to 5 years. The judge stated:

The main trusts of the disposition here speak to general and specific deterrence and of those two, general is by far the paramount. People like Mr. Vetesnik have to be warned that if they are going to enter into these sophisticated operations with the potential of causing great harm to society that they will spend lengthy periods of time in the penitentiary. Given that fact, the court has a tendency to go on the upper end of the range as suggested by learned counsel (...).

The Court imposed a sentence of 5 years of imprisonment.