

Guide for accepting checks:

1. Make sure it is a check

- Date
- Payee's name
- Maker's name
- Bank drawn on
- Bank account number

2. Accepting Personal Checks

- Name imprinted on check
- Drawn on a local bank
- Bank coding numbers on check
- Usually hand written

3. Accepting Payroll Checks:

- Firm name printed on checks
- Usually typed
- Usually check protected
- Usually made out in dollar and cents
- Bank name and location
- Require endorsement to be made in your presence; if not, have him/her sign again and compare

4. Accepting Identification:

- Driver's license PLUS and at least one or more pieces of ID.
- DO NOT accept temporary license
- Compare signature and photo on ID

**CONTACT
CORONA POLICE DEPARTMENT
FORGERY AND FRAUD UNIT
(951) 736-2337**

**RICHARD O. GONZALES
CHIEF OF POLICE**

**MAIN STATION
849 W. SIXTH ST.
CORONA, CA 92882**

HELP TAKE A "BITE" OUT OF CRIME



Thumbs
Up
Program

**A PROGRAM TO STOP
CHECK FRAUD**



Dear Corona Merchant:

We would like to introduce a new program to you called **“Thumbs Up,”** a program to stop check fraud in Corona. This program is introduced by the Corona Police Department. **“Thumbs Up”** can reduce your losses from bad checks, aiding in the recovery from forged checks or those drawn on closed or NSF accounts.

“Thumbs Up” is a voluntary program and it is easy to implement. Just have the customer place his/her right thumbprint on the back of the check before you accept it. With the inkless pads currently available, this process is easy and convenient.

Studies prove that fingerprint identification increases the chances of apprehension and prosecution. We are sure that you will want to protect yourself and your business by participating in **“Thumbs Up.”**

Thank you for allowing us to serve you better.

RICHARD O. GONZALES
CHIEF OF POLICE
CORONA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Who may participate?

“Thumbs Up” is for any retail merchant or businesses that have routine public contact.

What do I need to start participating?

It is simple! Just an inkless fingerprint pad... The Corona Police Department will be happy to assist you as you initiate the program in your business.

Does the program mean that I no longer need to check identification?

Absolutely NOT! Do not change your normal identification verification process. It is imperative that the business practices documents be thoroughly screened; the thumbprint is an additional tool, not a replacement for good business practices.

Where should the thumbprint be placed on the check?

The thumbprint should be on any clear space on the back of the check. Simply have the customer press his/her right thumbprint onto the inkless pad and then press it onto the check. **DO NOT ROLL THE PRINT/IMPRESSION ON THE CHECK.**

What are the benefits to my customer?

Every day, checkbooks, wallets and other forms of identification are stolen and used to pass fraudulent checks. This program will protect the true owner of the check. Additionally, the entire emphasis of this program is to protect the public from check fraud, thereby lowering merchant costs and ultimately, prices. The thumbprint on the check will be recorded or examined

only when a check is returned by the bank or when a criminal offense occurs.

What if I choose not to participate?

“Thumbs Up” has been adopted by the Corona Police Department. Merchants who choose not to participate may still submit fraudulent checks for investigation, however, those cases will be given a lower investigative priority than checks with thumbprints. The thumbprint is a valuable piece of evidence and greatly increases the probability of solution and prosecution.

While some initial resistance from merchants is expected, the greater hesitancy will probably come from the public. Obviously those who intend to pass bad checks will be most resistant. When the program is uniformly adopted by all Corona businesses, the practice will become accepted as presenting a driver’s license. Those businesses who do not participate may see an increase in fraudulent checks when criminals learn that a thumbprint is not required at their business.