



## **For Immediate Release**

July 2, 2010

# **Sheriff's Office Cautions Churches, Charities, and Fundraising Organizations of Fraud**

VICTIM/S: Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church

SUSPECT/S: Unknown at this time

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Washoe County Sheriff's Office Fraud Detectives want to alert fundraising organizations to the possibility of persons passing fraudulent checks in the Truckee Meadows.

On June 22, 2010, a Washoe County Deputy responded to a report of fraud at Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Saint Rose of Lima sells Scrip, which is discount cards for various stores/merchants, for their fundraising program to assist in their day-to-day operational expenses. The Church received three separate checks totaling \$1,200 for the purchase of Retail Scrip. These checks were fraudulent and the case was assigned to the Detectives Division on July 1, 2010.

Detectives want participants in Scrip Programs to be cognizant when receiving checks. Here are safe guards when dealing with unknown persons; don't accept checks that are not signed, request a photo ID, verify the person on the ID is the person presenting the check, and/or contact the financial institution for further information.

If you've been a victim of fraud, please contact your local law enforcement agency. If you have any information regarding this crime contact the Sheriff's Detective Division at 328-3320 or Secret Witness at 322-4900.

