



## Press Release

For Release on December 16, 2009

In its effort to continue to upgrade the security and durability of Bahamian banknotes, the Central Bank of The Bahamas is pleased to announce that, on December 16, 2009, it will release into circulation **CRISP** \$100, the sixth and final denomination in its **CRISP** (Counterfeit Resistant Integrated Security Product) family of banknotes. While the **CRISP** \$100 banknote will incorporate similar security features as the earlier **CRISP** banknotes, the durability and security features of this banknote has been significantly improved in comparison to previous \$100 banknotes issued.

The Bank is pleased with the combination of security and aesthetic features used to create the new banknote and will be watching it very closely to determine how well its durability performs in circulation. The banknote is purple, blue, green, and mauve in colour and bears a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on the front, and a life like picture of the Blue Marlin on the back.

These new banknotes will circulate alongside the existing \$100 banknotes which will eventually be phased out of circulation.

As part of its public education initiatives, the Bank has available, and has distributed to banks and other cash handlers, flyers and posters which describe the new security features of the \$100 banknote as well as the entire **CRISP** family of banknotes. The objective of the Bank is to ensure that the public is able to, more easily and reliably distinguish between genuine banknotes and counterfeits. To this end, the Central Bank also hosts counterfeit seminars bi-annually in Nassau and annually in Freeport. The next counterfeit seminar is scheduled to be held on Thursday December 17, 2009.

The public can help reduce opportunities for counterfeiters by paying closer attention to banknote posters and pamphlets located in clearing banks and government agencies, and by checking their \$100 banknotes for the following upgraded security features:

- more vibrant and lively colours and a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on the right.
- new watermark of Queen Elizabeth II and the numeral 100 (front left).
- a colour-shifting windowed thread that changes from violet to green when the banknote is tilted (front center).
- a new see-through feature that shows only a partial image of the sand dollar until it is held up to a light source, when a complete image of the sand dollar appears (front left, back right).



For more information on Bahamas banknotes and the security features, the public is welcomed to call the Banking Department of the Central Bank at 242-302-2629 or visit the Bank's website at [www.centralbankbahamas.com](http://www.centralbankbahamas.com).