

# Sample Demand Letter

Victims of dishonored checks are required to make at least one attempt to notify a check writer to demand payment. **This must be done by certified mail** or regular mail supported by an affidavit of service. **The check writer must then be given five (5) days to respond.** (If, after that time, the matter has not been resolved, the check can be referred to the Bad Check Restitution Program. See the Program Guidelines for more details on referring a check.)

The sample demand letter below is suitable to send the check writer. The language of the letter conforms to the requirements of the State Statutes and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

**Note:** Victims of dishonored checks must not make any threats of prosecution (written or oral) to enforce or enhance the collection or honoring of the check.

**1** Be sure to date the letter.

You can vary this text, but the text of a demand letter should "substantially conform to" this wording.

**2**

You may require the check writer to pay fee's allowable by law.

**3**

Keep a copy of the demand letter and enclose a copy of the demand letter and return receipt when you submit the check to the Bad Check Restitution Program.

If it is returned as undeliverable, you should enclose the undelivered letter when you submit the check to the Bad Check Restitution Program.

*The Bad Check Restitution Program requires check writers to pay the victim the full amount of the check as well as a fee to help offset the costs that are incurred as a result of the bad check.*



In the event you contact the check writer by phone, you should essentially give the same information as shown in this sample letter.

Of course you are free to discuss the matter with the check writer, but remember to **avoid threats of prosecution.**

(Company Letterhead)

**1** Date

Check writer  
Address  
City, State Zip

Re: Notice of Dishonored Check

**2**

You are hereby notified that check number (ck #), issued by you on (date of check) drawn upon (name of bank), and payable to (name of your business), has been dishonored.

**3**

You have five (5) days from the date you receive this notice to tender payment to the full amount of the check plus a fee of (\$ ) to the undersigned at (business mailing address).

You are further notified that in the event the above amount is timely paid in full, you will not be subject to legal proceedings, civil or criminal.

Sincerely,

(Signed)  
(Phone number)

## Washtenaw County Prosecuting Attorney's Bad Check Restitution Program

We will do our best to make sure your dishonored check(s) are handled promptly and efficiently. If you have questions about the Program or any of the dishonored checks you have referred, contact us at the phone number or internet address below.

P.O. Box 8645 | Ann Arbor, MI 48106-8645 | toll-free 1-800-745-3744 | [www.hotchecks.net/washtenaw](http://www.hotchecks.net/washtenaw)