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Arrest Made in Fraud Case Involving Synovus Bank

The Columbus Police Department has made an arrest in a fraud case involving more than half a million dollars in counterfeit checks.

William Chadwick Jones, 19, was taken into custody this week after an investigation revealed that he opened a business account with Synovus Bank in January 2025. Shortly after, five counterfeit checks totaling \$545,770.97 were deposited into the account via mobile deposit. The funds were then quickly moved through wire transfers, debit card purchases, and peer-to-peer payment platforms like Zelle.

Some of the money was used to pay a criminal attorney retainer tied to a previous fraud arrest in Forsyth, GA. Another large transfer went toward the purchase of a Porsche, which Jones was driving at the time of his arrest.

Although the fraudulent activity occurred in Alpharetta, GA, the case was referred to CPD in March 2025 due to Synovus Bank being headquartered in Columbus. CPD's Property Crimes Unit took on the investigation and worked closely with the Johns Creek Police Department, where Jones resides, to locate and arrest him without incident. He was transported to Muscogee County and is awaiting a hearing in Recorder's Court.

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