

Deposit Risk Assessment in the Era of Multi-Channel Banking

HOW TO REDUCE FRAUD LOSSES—AND DELIGHT YOUR CUSTOMERS WITH FAST, CONVENIENT BANKING EXPERIENCES

March 2023

Banks are losing the battle against deposit fraud.

Traditional deposit fraud tactics like check fraud continue to pose significant challenges to financial institutions (FIs) of all sizes.

Deposit fraud continues to rise:



38% of FIs report first-party check and deposit fraud increased more than 20% in 2021



60% of all attempted fraud against U.S. bank deposit accounts is made up of check fraud 2



2/₃ of organizations were prey to check fraud in 2021³



² Deposit Account Fraud Survey, American Bankers Association, January 2020

³ AFP® Payments Fraud and Control Report, 2022

••• Faster banking means faster fraud.

New and emerging banking technologies like same-day ACH offer speed and convenience for consumers.

They also open the door to new fraud risks.

Seeing a lucrative opportunity for theft, criminals are devising new tools for attacking modern payment systems.

Common payments fraud tactics include:



Counterfeit, forged or altered checks



Duplicate deposits*

* Even well-intentioned customers can inadvertently make duplicate deposits (e.g., deposit a check via their mobile banking app, forget they did so—and then deposit the physical check at the ATM or teller window).



Three Negative Impacts of Deposit Fraud



Deposit fraud losses are growing:

63%

63% increase in ACH fraud losses in 2021

50%

50% increase in first-party check fraud losses in 2021¹



Fraudulent deposit activity reduces net income for FIs in a variety of ways, including:

- Increased non-sufficient funds (NSF) losses
- Challenges validating wire transfers
- Administrative costs



Deposit fraud diminishes operational efficiency.

Fraud staff at financial institutions are experiencing overwhelming workloads because of the time required to investigate fraud cases, leading to:



Poor allocation of resources



Added costs due to process inefficiencies



Deposit fraud threatens customer retention.

Consumers have become accustomed to the digital world's immediacy—and they expect their deposited funds to be instantly available.

As FIs strengthen their deposit risk assessment strategies to combat high rates of fraud, the added controls make it difficult to provide customers with a seamless deposit experience.



Deposit Chek®

VERIFY DEPOSITS AND EXPEDITE FUNDS AVAILABILITY



Modern fraud prevention demands a modern solution.

To stay competitive, FIs need a unique deposit risk assessment tool that can help:



Safeguard against fraud losses: <u>Detect deposit</u> fraud before if occurs



Improve staff efficiency: Minimize time spent investigating fraud



Enable convenient banking experiences:
Allow customers to make deposits and quickly access funds—via multiple channels



••• Combat deposit fraud and maintain a positive customer experience.

Deposit Chek® improves deposit risk assessment without disrupting the customer experience:

- Advance notice of high-risk deposits confirms the status of an account and predicts the likelihood that an item will be returned
- Real-time deposit screening across all chann els ensures quick availability of transactional and new account deposits





••• Bundled capabilities enable smarter deposit risk assessments.



Participant Model & Scored Accounts: Scores indicate the likelihood a payment will return unpaid



Counterfeit/High-Focus Item Detection: Indicates if an item is suspected to be counterfeit based on prior transaction and return activity



Duplicate Item Detection: Indicates if an item may have also been deposited at another FI or cashed at a non-bank location



Account Owner Authentication (AOA)*: Validates that the individual being inquired upon can transact on the account.

*AOA is available within Deposit Chek® for an additional fee.



••• Superior data drives superior results.

Early Warning® screens off-us and/or on-us deposits against our National Shared DatabaseSM to provide clear visibility into:

- Risk associated with ACH and paper check transactions
- · Historical status for transactions drawn on an FI participant account



In 2021, the National Shared DatabaseSM:

13 billion

processed 13 billion transactions

\$33.8 billion

alerted customers to \$33.8 billion in high-risk transactions¹

National
Shared
DatabaseSM
The Trusted
Custodian® Role
of Early Warning

1 National Shared DatabaseSM Report, 2021



Use Deposit Chek® to improve your deposit risk assessment strategy



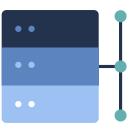
••• How Deposit Chek® works



1: A customer makes a check deposit through an ATM, teller, or mobile channel, or initiates an online funds transfer.

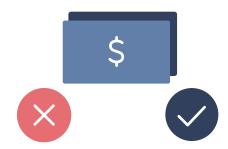


2: You (the depository bank) submit a real-time inquiry to Early Warning seeking information on the deposited item and validate account ownership with Account Owner Authorization (AOA).



3: Early Warning leverages the National Shared DatabaseSM to provide insights on:

- account status
- potential risk of accepting the deposit (risk score)
- type of account and account ownership validation



4: You make an informed decision to release or hold the deposit based on the Deposit Chek® response and your institution's risk tolerance.



4 ways Deposit Chek® can help your organization



Reduce losses due to fraud: Point of presentment screening and early detection of potential returns reduces NSF costs and helps prevent duplicate deposits.



Grow your customer base: Expedited deposited funds



Balance risk, efficiency, and compliance:
Configure the solution's business logic to align with your institution's risk tolerance



Automated, real-time deposit screening alerts customers who may be fraud victims and expedites funds availability across all channels

Deliver a seamless





Can Early Warning® help you enhance and strengthen your payments fraud mitigation strategy?



••• About Early Warning®

Early Warning Services, LLC, a financial services technology leader, has been empowering and protecting consumers, small businesses, and the U.S. financial system with cutting-edge fraud and payment solutions for more than three decades. We are also the company behind Zelle®, and PazeSM, a wallet that reimagines e-commerce payments. Early Warning partners with more than 2,500 banks and credit unions to increase access to financial services and products, and protect financial transactions.

With a partner like Early Warning, FIs are empowered with an accurate, comprehensive solution that:

- Provides breadth and depth of deposit data, enabling a holistic view of a consumer's banking behavior
- Leverages real-time, predictive analytics that enable better-informed decisions
- Ensures faster decisions and reduced friction which translates to a better customer experience



