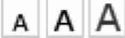


# Latest Secret Shopper Scam Affects Good Names of the Downtown Hilton and National Tube Form of Fort Wayne, IN

9/14/2011

Tools |

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***Thanks to the Fort Wayne, IN BBB for Sharing this Warning***

## **CONTACTS:**

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BBB Serving Northern Indiana has been made aware of a scam that is directly affecting two local companies: The Hilton Downtown and National Tube Form located on Engle Road in Fort Wayne, IN. The scam is generating calls and concerns from various parts of the U.S.

Consumers across the country are receiving a letter congratulating them for having been chosen to do a survey as a Secret Shopper. A check in various amounts ranging from \$1,900 to \$7,000 is enclosed from National Tube Form, located in Fort Wayne, asking the receiver to keep part of the money, spend some money "secret shopping" at JC Penney and other stores, and then to send \$1,500 or more of that check back to the perpetrator of this scam through Western Union. Hilton Downtown's address is being used as a return address. So far, Hilton has received 50 of these letters returned to them. National Tube is rejecting all of these checks as fraudulent.

"The severity of this scam is far-reaching," said Michael Coil, President/CEO of BBB of Northern Indiana. "Your BBB will be proactive in sending an alert to BBB offices across the country and in Canada so this can, hopefully, be averted immediately."

## **BBB and FTC ADVICE**

The BBB in partnership with the FTC, offer these tips on mystery shopping offers:

<http://www.bbb.org/us/article/ftc--the-secrets-of-mystery-shopping-revealed-4870>

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