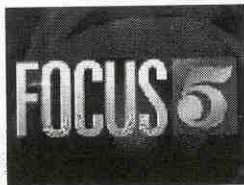


FOCUS FIVE: High to Low Check Bouncing Survey

(Tuesday, May 18, 1999)

In Focus Five on May 18 we told you about how Twin Cities banks handle the checks you write when they come back to the bank.

Norwest and some others put them in order from highest dollar amount to lowest. This, they say, is to ensure that the biggest checks, (and often the most important ones), clear first and are therefore less likely to bounce. But some customers and consumer groups contend the "High to Low" system simply makes it so even more checks become overdrafts which multiplies the overdraft fees the customer must pay. Eyewitness News surveyed Twin Cities banks to see how they process your checks. Here are the results:



High to low:

Firstar Bank
Highland Bank
Marquette Bank
Midway Bank
Norwest Bank

Low to high:

National City Bank