CHECKING VOCABULARY

Amount Dollar amount a check is written for. This appears in both numbers and written text on the check. Both should match. If they do not, the financial institution must clear the check for the amount that is written in text.

Check Digit The number noted in the MICR line at the bottom of the check that matches the check number in the upper right corner.

Check Number Number of the check at the top right corner.

Cleared The action of subtracting funds from the account for a check.

Date Date the check was written. However on personal checks, they can be cashed as soon as they are written. "Post dating" (or future dating) a check does not prevent someone from cashing it.

Drawee The Financial Institution the check is drawn on.

Drawer The account owner of the check also known as "Maker".

Financial Institution Bank or Credit Union

Maker The account owner also known as "Drawer"

Memo Place on the check where one can write a note as a reminder of the purpose of the check.

Monthly Statement Paper copy of all the activity on an account for a given month.

Originator Person issuing or writing the check also known as Drawer or Maker

Payee The person or business a check is written to.

Reserve Bank Local regional bank that serves other banks

Routing (ABA) Number Unique 9 digit identification number for a bank or credit union

Signature Should match the name of the Drawer or Maker of the check.

