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## Fraudulent Check Alert

It has come to our attention that AJF Inc. has been a victim of a secret shopper employment scam. Individuals in different locations of the country have received letters asking them to participate in a mystery shopper evaluation. All the letters contain checks that appear to be sent by AJF Incorporated or AJF Systems Inc. The letters instruct the individuals to log onto a website and sign up for "assignments". They are instructed to deposit the checks, keep a portion as "pay" and wire different amounts to different entities. Please be advised that:

AJF Inc. **IS NOT** in the secret/mystery shopper business.

AJF Inc. **HAS NOT** issued any checks of this nature.

AJF Inc. or the bank named on the check **WILL NOT** honor the check.

We are a manufacturing company that supplies refractories to the steel industry. It is unfortunate and extremely frustrating that someone would use our name to defraud the public. The proper authorities have been notified including the FBI, Federal Trade Commission and the local police.

If you have received a letter of this nature, you should be aware that the checks are fraudulent and no attempt should be made to cash them. You should contact your local postal inspector or other law enforcement agencies. If you still have the envelope, letter and check, please mail them to:

Michael O'Lear  
President, AJF Inc.

For more information on these types of scams you may visit these websites:

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/alerts/alt014.shtm>

<http://www.fakechecks.org/>

<http://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/>