

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been a Border Services Officer/Customs Inspector for 15 years. I have conducted hundreds of currency examinations and executed dozens of currency seizures. During my time with the Enforcement Team we focused on the exportation of currency. I found the amount of cash leaving Canada to be alarming. In my experience, by far the most common destination for currency exported from Canada is Lebanon. I kept some informal stats during my time with Enforcement Team. From January to November 2015 my team discovered over \$620,000 cash going to Lebanon. And this was just the small percentage of travellers that we examined. I feel that the PCMLTFA should be updated to increase the Level I penalty and to require families/travelling companions to declare \$10,000 in total (not per person). If the intent of the legislation is to control/monitor the movement of currency in and out of Canada, it doesn't seem to make sense that an individual could carry \$9,999 without reporting but a married couple could carry \$19,999. The currency will end up in the same place and, most likely, for the same purpose. The types of monetary instruments that are required to be reported also needs to be expanded. I have seen one family with \$45,000 in money orders and another traveller with a cheque for \$250,000, both going to Lebanon. Neither were endorsed, so neither were reportable. I would like to see some sort system available to law enforcement to track and report large amounts of currency going to a particular country, even if the individual amounts are under \$10,000. Also, that these figures should be accessible to officers.