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9) "Make Money Fast" chain emails

Dear Friend,

This letter is about an opportunity to make an incredible amount of Money (CASH !!!) in a very short time. The cost is only \$6.00! This is the 16th day since I started receiving \$ cash, and so far I have received \$5,845 (in \$1 Bills)...so I guess this is really working! Give it a try! All I did was follow the instructions in the letter that I received below, and sent out some e-mail to people who responded to my ads.

Here is a testimony from one of the thousands who have benefited from this simple investment plan.

"I'm a retired attorney, and about a year ago a man came to me with a letter. The letter he brought to me is the same letter before you now. He asked me to verify that this letter was legal. I told him that I would review it and get back to him. When I first read the letter, I thought it was some off the wall idea to make money. A week later I met again with my client to discuss the issue. I told him that the letter would be all right. I was curious about the letter, so he told me how it worked. I thought it was a long shot, so I decided against participating. Before my client left, I asked him to keep me updated as to his results. About two months later he called me to tell me that he had received more than \$800,000.00 in cash! I didn't believe him. So he asked me to try the plan and see for myself."

A classic pyramid scheme: you get an email with a list of names, you are asked to send 5 dollars (or so) by mail to the person whose name is at the top of the list, add your own name to the bottom, and forward the updated list to a number of other people.

The author of this scam letter painstakingly explains that, if more and more people join this chain, when it's your turn to receive the money, you might even become a millionaire!

Bear in mind that, most times, the list of names is manipulated to keep the top name (the creator of the scam, or his friends) on top, permanently.

As with the previously circulating snail-mail version of this chain, the email edition is just as illegal. Should you choose to participate, you risk being charged with fraud – definitely not something you want on your record, or resume.