**Subject:** Responsible Disclosure: GhostCore Proof-of-Concept Demonstrating Physical Object-Based Malware Vector

**To:** CERT Coordination Center / Relevant Cybersecurity Disclosure Authority

**From:** GhostCore Systems - Ethical Red Team Research Division

**Date:** [Insert Current Date]

### **Executive Summary:**

GhostCore Systems is disclosing a high-impact, low-detection proof-of-concept (PoC) attack vector that utilizes *physical U.S. currency* (specifically a $100 bill) as a covert **malware trigger mechanism** within transactional kiosk and ATM systems.

This represents a *novel class* of attack where **non-digital, analog mediums** are exploited to deliver digital consequences without chips, NFC, barcodes, or electronics. The payload leverages serial number formatting inconsistencies, encoding edge cases (e.g., UTF variants), and device trust assumptions.

### **Key Highlights:**

* **Non-Electronic Attack Vector:** A $100 bill acts as the malicious "carrier," using printed serial or signature anomalies that exploit backend logic.
* **Trigger Mechanism:** When scanned, these crafted patterns can invoke conditional execution in kiosk software (i.e., bypass logic, unlock privileged states, or activate backdoors).
* **Encapsulation Method:** Payloads may be embedded across encoding schemas, leading to interpreter-dependent execution (e.g., different behavior under UTF-7 vs UTF-8 parsing).
* **No Network Activity:** The attack does not require connectivity, making detection extremely difficult via conventional SIEM, IDS, or EDR tooling.
* **Impacted Systems:** POS terminals, ATMs, bill validators, and any financial kiosk systems accepting physical currency.

### **Ethical Disclosure Notice:**

No live systems were harmed or exploited during research. All tests were performed in sandboxed emulated environments. The detailed exploit code and implementation logic are being withheld to avoid malicious replication.

GhostCore Systems requests a secure disclosure path for further discussion and coordinated mitigation strategy.

### **Contact:**

[Insert secure method of contact / PGP Public Key if needed]

GhostCore Systems Research Division "We don't think outside the box. We *unmake* the box."

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