



*America's Newspapers*

## **How it works; The price**

**Oregonian, The (Portland, OR) - Sunday, July 1, 2007**

**Author:** *Gosia Wozniacka, The Oregonian*

---

### How it works

Many newly arrived undocumented immigrants --whether from Mexico, China, Canada or Russia --rely on a network of family and friends to get the papers required by employers. The buyer arrives with a photograph of the undocumented person, pays a runner, gives him a bogus nine-digit number and returns a few hours later to pick up the "papers." Genuine documents are ordered in advance and may be paid for in installments.

### The price

\$80-\$100: Fictitious Social Security card and green card

\$700-\$1,000: Genuine Social Security number and name; price sometimes includes the birth certificate.

\$500, plus cost of taxes: "Renting" a Social Security number and name from a U.S. resident or citizen, usually a family member or a friend --someone who lives in the United States and is willing to "hold" two jobs, or a person who temporarily returned to his country of birth and wants to rent his identity. The borrower must pay for the extra taxes.

Free: Using the Social Security number and identity of one's U.S.-born child.

-- Gosia Wozniacka

**Caption:** GRAPHIC

---

**Edition:** *Sunrise*

**Section:** *Graphics*

**Page:** *A08*

**Record Number:** *MERLIN\_10128124*

*Copyright (c) 2007 Oregonian Publishing Co.*