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### **U.S. Merchant Systems protects restaurant patrons from credit card skimming crime rings**

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Credit card "skimming" is big business for criminals. The perpetrators are no longer your average street criminals, but highly organized professionals who are experts on "skimming". Recently a large crime ring based in New York but operating in five states, was broken up after operating for more than two years and racking up illegal purchases in excess of \$3 million.

"Card-skimming" is a practice that usually takes place in a restaurant environment. After the customer hands over their credit card to pay, the waiter uses a small, hand-held "skimmer" that reads and records information on the magnetic strips of patrons' credit cards. The ringleaders then collect the skimming devices and pay the crooked waiters for information from each credit card stored in the device. The leaders then use the stolen information to create counterfeit credit cards by encoding the information on high-quality credit card blanks and proceed to make purchases, unbeknownst to the real cardholder.

It is in the consumer's best interest to NEVER LET THEIR CREDIT CARD LEAVE THEIR POSSESSION! U.S. Merchant Systems now carries the Verifone Vx670, a "pay at the table" terminal that allows the consumer to keep possession of their credit/ATM cards at all times. By enabling consumers to pay for their meals without ever having to give up possession of their credit or debit cards, this solution gives diners more control than ever before over their restaurant experience.

Give your customers a new way to pay that is fast, secure, and reliable with the next innovation in payment processing technology from U.S. Merchant Systems and VeriFone. With payment options ranging from tableside and car side to counter and delivery, their hospitality solutions support all types of restaurant environments.

U.S. Merchant Systems has added the Verifone Vx670 to their quality suite of products and services in keeping with their vision of "True Quality Merchant Services". They strive to provide their merchants with superior service that is unparalleled in the merchant service industry.

To find out more about the Vx670 and their other products & services, call U.S. Merchant Systems at 1.800.610.5323.